

Saud, Thatcher discuss Gulf war

LONDON (R) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal conferred Tuesday with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Arab moves to end the war between Iran and Iraq. British officials said after the 45-minute meeting that Prince Saud outlined latest peace-making efforts by the Gulf states. They declined to go into detail. But diplomatic sources said the Gulf states sought to persuade Syria to re-open an Iraqi pipeline across its territory to carry oil to the Mediterranean. This would reduce the temptation for Iraq to use new French Super Etendard aircraft to attack oil installations in Iran, the sources said. Iran threatened to halt all oil shipments through the Gulf if Iraq raids the installations. This would seriously affect Saudi Arabia and other Gulf oil exporters.

Jordan Times

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جورديان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية يومية مستقلة المنشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Arafat appeals for Soviet help

BEIRUT (R) — Embattled Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has appealed for help to Soviet leader Yuri Andropov "in this critical stage." The PLO news agency Wafa reported Tuesday. The appeal came in a cable sent to the Kremlin Monday marking the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution. The text was released by Wafa in a dispatch from the Lebanese port of Tripoli. Mr. Arafat's current base. "We have great hopes that our friend the Soviet Union and its President Yuri Andropov will offer all help and support for the PLO and the Palestinian people, so that we can overcome this critical stage in the history of the Palestinian people." The message said the Palestinians were facing "major imperialist and Zionist powers wishing to deprive them of the rights and political and socialist achievements embodied by the PLO."

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Fahd receives Hussein's message

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Tuesday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with current Arab Affairs, the situation in Lebanon and the Palestinian question and latest developments in the issues, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. The message, "which was in compliance with the continuing consultations between Saudi Arabia and Jordan within the framework of efforts made to guarantee a positive climate" for the next Arab summit scheduled to be held in Riyadh, Petra said. Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, who delivered the message to King Fahd, later returned to Amman, Petra added.

Handicapped sports chief praises Jordanian efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Frank Haden, president of the sports section at the U.S.-based Kennedy Foundation for the Rehabilitation of the Handicapped, expressed appreciation for efforts made by Her Majesty Queen Noor to help the handicapped. Dr. Haden praised the role played by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid for expanding services offered to the handicapped in Jordan. Dr. Haden said he had visited 33 countries over the last few years, and added that these visits to developing countries aim at organising a special Olympic games for the handicapped.

Arens: SS-21s do not alter balance

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens said Tuesday that Soviet-supplied SS-21 missiles in Syria did not alter significantly Israel's balance of power with the Arab world. Israel Radio reported. The sophisticated surface-to-surface missiles with a range of 110 kilometres, are considered highly accurate. Arens's intelligence chief last week said the missiles increased Syria's "qualitative and quantitative" ability to hit targets within Israel.

Israel to boycott Camp David function

AMMAN (J.T.) — Israel will boycott a conference in Atlanta City to mark the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Camp David accords, Israeli Radio said. The Israeli decision was in protest against the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) participation in the conference, scheduled to be held in November, the radio, monitored in Amman, said. The Israeli government will not be represented at the meeting, but some Israeli university professors are expected to attend the conference.

Ariane ready for new blast off

KOUROU SPACE CENTRE, French Guiana (R) — The countdown for Europe's first purely commercial space launch was on target Tuesday with the rocket Ariane L-7 due to blast off at 8:54 p.m. (23:54 GMT). Ariane L-7 will be carrying Europe's hopes for a big share in the booming commercial space market when the three-stage 42-metre rocket lifts off with its communications satellite payload from this sprawling French space centre on the French Guiana coast.

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Gemayel fixes airport as talks venue, but Junblatt says 'no'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese government Tuesday fixed Beirut airport as the venue for long-delayed national reconciliation talks aimed at ending Lebanon's nine years of violence but an aide to opposition leader Walid Junblatt immediately rejected the site as "completely unacceptable."

State-run Beirut Radio announced that provincial governors had been asked to send invitations to nine politicians and factional leaders to attend the conference at the airport, south of the city, at 11.00 a.m. (0900 GMT) on Thursday. The date was set last week, but President Amin Gemayel held off announcing the venue while a mediator sought to end a three-week wrangle among the factions over where to meet.

In Damascus, Riyad Ra'ad, a senior official of Mr. Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), said he was surprised by the Beirut Radio announcement and rejected the airport as completely unacceptable to Mr. Junblatt. Mr. Ra'ad told Reuters that the PSP was proposing that the meeting should take place in a neutral country in Europe, possibly Switzerland.

Officials at the presidential palace confirmed that the airport, which serves as base for the 1,600-strong U.S. Marine contingent in Beirut, had been fixed as the venue.

But news of the decision, which first surfaced on the privately-run radio of the right-wing Falangist Party, appeared to take them by surprise. They said no announcement was planned before a cabinet meeting Wednesday.

As the news broke, the regular thump of exploding artillery shells resounded over the capital from army positions in the hilltop town of Souk Al Gharb to the east. Military sources said about 100 rounds hit the town during the afternoon, apparently from Syrian-backed Druze militiamen who fought the army there up till the Sept. 26 ceasefire.

Earlier, two soldiers were killed and three wounded when tank-backed army units clashed with gunmen in the southern suburbs and airport road, stronghold of Shi'ite Muslim militias. Two civilians were killed and about 10 reported injured in the fighting.

Mr. Junblatt's right-hand man, former cabinet minister Marwan Hamadeh, later told Reuters in Damascus that the Beirut Radio announcement was inexplicable and the PSP was against the airport as a venue.

"We have made our reservations about Beirut airport as a site for the national dialogue conference clear to the Lebanese government many times because of the security situation there," Mr. Hamadeh said.

"We were surprised by the Lebanese government announcement. Our position remains the same."

Mr. Hamadeh said the Beirut announcement came as Saudi Arabia's deputy envoy Rafiq Hariri was on his way to Beirut with a new proposal for President Gemayel.

Just before he left, Mr. Hariri said he was "very hopeful" and believed a site acceptable to all sides would be announced within 24 hours.

Mr. Hariri earlier held two hours of talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam and said the results were "very good."

Questioned about the Beirut government announcement, Mr. Hamadeh said it came as a complete surprise as he had just been talking to Mr. Hariri and had made a different proposal.

Neither man would reveal what the proposal was.

But Mr. Hariri said: "I am going back to Beirut to see the president (Gemayel)."

He added he believed the proposal he was carrying would be acceptable to all sides.

Sources close to Mr. Junblatt said they believed unless the venue was fixed Tuesday night fighting was inevitable.

The sources also said Mr. Junblatt was planning to travel Wednesday to a so far unspecified country in West Europe.

The Beirut Radio announcement said the multi-national force, made up of U.S., French, Italian and British units, had agreed to provide security for the meeting, although spokesmen for the U.S. and British contingents said they had no knowledge of any such request.

Earlier Tuesday, former President Suleiman Franjeh, a pro-Syrian Christian who is also invited to the conference, reiterated his demand that the talks be held either outside Lebanon or at the town of Diman, which lies close to his north Lebanon mountain stronghold. Diman is the summer seat of the Maronite Christian patriarchate.

4 killed in clashes

Earlier Tuesday, Lebanese army tanks blasted at grenade-firing militiamen in Beirut's southern suburbs Tuesday and security sources said four people, including two soldiers, were killed in the fighting.

It was one of the worst outbreaks of violence since a ceasefire came into effect on Sept. 26. Eyewitnesses said at least four art-

illery shells crashed near the battle zones in the mainly Shi'ite-populated suburbs of Beirut.

Lebanese military sources said two Lebanese soldiers were killed and three wounded in the exchanges which subsided after midday.

The leftist Murabitoun radio named two civilians it said were killed by snipers. It said 10 people were wounded by sniper fire.

The military sources sought to minimise the seriousness of the fighting by saying it constituted no more than a minor violation of the truce.

Earlier, military sources said an army tank in the Galerie Semaan area was engaging targets in Bourj Al Brajneh, a Shi'ite neighbourhood which is also the site of a Palestinian refugee camp.

A spokesman for the Shi'ite Muslim Amal (hope) militia said it was abiding by the ceasefire and its members had orders not to shoot back. But he said there were unnamed factions at work.

Spain may join peace force

MADRID (R) — Spain would consider sending troops to join the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon if the Lebanese government formalised moves to request their presence, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

A ministry spokesman said the Lebanese Foreign Ministry had held informal contacts with Spanish diplomats in Beirut to discuss the possible request which the spokesman said was still at a preliminary stage.

A Spanish contingent would probably act in an observer role but it was too early to say what its mission would be or how many troops would be involved, the spokesman added.

Last month, the residence of the Spanish ambassador to Lebanon was hit by two shells during a bombardment of southern Beirut. None of the embassy staff was hurt.

He did not expect any changes in Middle East policy as a result of a wide-ranging review now in progress.

Mr. Speakes said that promoting reconciliation among the warring Lebanese factions was Mr. Reagan's highest priority now.

Mr. Speakes said the next priority after Lebanon would be possible new moves to push the overall Middle East peace plan Mr. Reagan announced on Sept. 1, 1982.

That plan called for self-rule for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan, but ruled out an independent Palestinian state.

Mr. Shultz described the new national security advisor as "fair-minded" and "a real professional." He said Mr. McFarlane, who has been serving as President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, has been part of the U.S. foreign policy decision-making process for quite a while and knows the issues.

Asked if Mr. McFarlane will have as much influence with the president as did William Clark, the president's long-time friend who left the NSC job to serve as interior secretary, Mr. Shultz said "the president has a great respect for him" and that he is sure Mr. McFarlane will develop a unique relationship with the president just as Mr. Clark did in the position.

In reply to a question on Lebanese reconciliation efforts, Mr. Shultz said that he had extensive talks with Mr. McFarlane, who returned from the Middle East to Washington last week, and Waddi Haddad, special adviser to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

"There is a lot of activity going on and I think there is motion... on the political talks as well. The preparatory meeting was quite satisfactory as I understand it, and so I think as a general proposition things are moving," Mr. Shultz said.

The United States says it wants to continue both sets of negotiations, even if failure to reach agreement at the "Euromissile" talks forces NATO to carry out its 1979 decision to deploy new missiles in Europe.



Gunmen of the Lebanese Amal militia, based in the Shiyah neighbourhood of Beirut, open fire on Lebanese army soldiers Monday (A.P. wirephoto)

PLA loyalists call for dismissal of rebel chief-of-staff in Syria

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) officers in Lebanon Tuesday called for the dismissal of the commander of PLA units in Syria following his defection to Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) rebels, a statement issued by the Fateh office here said.

The PLA is the regular fighting arm of the PLO, which is led by Yasser Arafat.

The statement said PLA officers at an emergency meeting denounced Brigadier Tariq Al Khadra and called on Mr. Arafat in his capacity as overall PLA commander to dismiss Brig. Khadra as head of Hittite Forces. PLA units in Syria.

All orders issued by Brig. Khadra should be ignored by PLA troops, it added.

Brig. Khadra said in a statement

carried by the official Syrian News Agency SANA Tuesday he no longer recognised Mr. Arafat as the head of the PLO.

"Arafat is involved in American-Zionist plots and is dragging the Palestinian people down a dangerous road," he was quoted as saying.

On Tuesday, the Syrian-backed

(Continued on page 3)

Iraqi, Yugoslav leaders discuss ties

BAGHDAD (R) — Yugoslav Prime Minister Milka Planinc and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Tuesday discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations, the Gulf war and the Non-Aligned Movement, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said.

The agency quoted President Hussein as saying relations between Iraq and Yugoslavia were strong and thanking Yugoslavia for supporting the Arab World against "Israeli aggression and imperialist plans."

Mr. Planinc, who arrived in Baghdad on Sunday, backed Iraqi appeals for an end to the Iran-Iraq war, now in its fourth year, INA said.

Baghdad has made repeated calls for a ceasefire, all of them rejected by Tehran which demands billions of dollars in war reparations, a return to pre-war borders and "punishment of the aggressor" as conditions for peace.

President Hussein and Mr. Planinc also discussed ways of boosting the role of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement, as well as the Middle East situation and other international issues, INA said.

Iraq expects new attack

Meanwhile, Iran has completed preparations for a fresh offensive

in the three-year-old Gulf war and an attack is imminent, an Iraqi military spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), did not indicate where the offensive would take place, but he said Iraqi troops were prepared to repel any attack.

Iran has launched about seven offensives to try to break through Iraqi lines since Iraqi troops withdrew from territory they occupied shortly after the war began in September 1980.

The last Iranian offensive was in the central sector of the war front at the end of July, one week after a cross-border thrust over northern Iraq's Kurdish mountains.

McFarlane named U.S. national security adviser

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Reagan Monday named Middle East negotiator Robert McFarlane as his new national security affairs adviser.

Mr. McFarlane succeeds William Clark, nominated last week to replace James Watt as interior secretary.

Mr. Reagan told reporters that Mr. McFarlane, a retired Marine corps lieutenant-colonel with much experience in government, brought "a treasure of experience" to his new post and was ideally qualified for his new responsibilities.

The new national security affairs adviser, who is also director of staff of the National Security Council (NSC), previously served as State Department counsellor and then Mr. Clark's deputy.

Mr. Reagan said he did not know when he would choose a new Middle East envoy.

U.N. Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick would remain at the United Nations, Mr. Reagan said after being asked about reports that she would be offered a new foreign policy post.

She had done a magnificent job and "as far as I know, she is happy," Mr. Reagan said.

Mr. McFarlane, 46, who took over from Philip Habib 10 weeks ago as Middle East envoy, returned to Washington from Lebanon on Wednesday.

The main responsibility of the national security adviser is to coordinate the views of foreign policy and intelligence agencies before recommendations are sent to the president.

Mr. Clark, a close friend of Mr. Reagan, wielded great personal influence on policy, as did Henry Kissinger in the 1970s.

Officials said conservatives, including Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey favoured Mrs. Kirkpatrick as security affairs adviser.

Opposition to Mr. McFarlane evaporated when the conservatives were assured that he would have direct access to Mr. Reagan and would be able to keep foreign policy at the top of the president's agenda.

McFarlane vow to end foreign policy feuds; Kirkpatrick supports Israel at Zionist meeting, page 2

Thatcher shuffles cabinet

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Tuesday promoted the chairman of her Conservative Party in a series of ministerial changes forced by the resignation from the cabinet of his predecessor, Cecil Parkinson.

John Gummer, a 43-year-old clergyman's son, unexpectedly made party chairman last month before word of Mr. Parkinson's affair with his former secretary became public, moved up to second rank from the third rank at the Employment Department.

His job will involve steering controversial trades union reforms, the government's legislative centre-piece in the present session of parliament, into law.

Among four other middle and junior level appointments, Mrs. Thatcher made Junior Treasury Minister John Moore financial secretary, replacing Nicholas Ridley who was given the cabinet post of transport secretary in a cabinet shuffle on Sunday.

Mr. Parkinson quit his cabinet post of trade and industry secretary on Friday. The job was given to Norman Tebbit, previously employment secretary.

Sheikh-king dispenses justice on the telephone

'The prince' reigns from Tripoli apartment block

By Jonathan Wright
Reuters

TRIPOLI, Lebanon — The unproclaimed Sheikh-king of Lebanon's second city reigns from an unlikely throne-room on the fourth floor of a modern apartment block in the eastern suburbs.

But Sheikh Saeed Shaaban, known to his Fundamentalist followers as "the prince", can see with pride from his balcony that at least in Tripoli the green flag of Islam has displaced the emblems of all the Middle East's merely secular creeds.

Baathists, socialists, communists, Arab nationalists and myriad other groups once active in Lebanon's "capital of the north" have all succumbed.

His men, armed with their faith and their Kalashnikov weapons, walk the massive battlements of the 11th-century crusader citadel, the most valued prize in the local struggle for power.

Down at the port, they are still settling into premises acquired from their communist rivals in three days of heavy street fighting last week.

A stocky 50-year-old in black robes and white skullcap, the sheikh sits in his room dispensing justice on the telephone. No government judge in Tripoli can give rulings with such certainty that the parties will obey.

The sheikh may not have the national prestige of former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the city's elder statesman and peacemaker, but in military might he has already eclipsed him.

Founded only a year ago when three like-minded groups decided to join forces, his Islamic Unification Movement has risen to power meteorically, even by the volatile standards of lawless Tripoli.

From their roots in the Sunni Muslim slums on the northern bank of filthy stream known as the

Abu Ali River, the movement's predecessors first waged war on Syrian-backed Alawite Muslims based on a hill above them.

Regular Syrian troops, in Lebanon under a now-defunct peace-keeping mandate from the Arab League, came under almost daily attack and eventually withdrew to safer positions on the outskirts of the city.

The stage was set for Tripoli to revert to what many of its 350,000 citizens saw as unredeemed barbarism.

Few other cities of its size can have endured such anarchy for so long while the local groups, many financed from abroad and some no more than street gangs with the flimsiest of ideological trappings, fought for hegemony.

Apart from the monthly bouts of full-scale warfare, the people of Tripoli lived with snipers, revenge killings and car bombs planted outside mosques and hospitals.

Two months ago the Fundamentalists began what now seems like a determined campaign to wipe the opposition off the map and impose their will on the hapless city.

The citadel fell in only three hours. The garrison of pro-Iraqi Baathists and Lebanese nationalists dispersed and their leaders went underground, abandoning all their offices.

Last week it was the turn of the pro-Soviet Communist Party. It suffered a crushing defeat, losing 40 to 45 men killed with 20 more still missing.

According to the communists, many of the victims were massacred after surrendering. 14 of

them shot in the head at point-blank range in a cellar next to the party's main office. The Red Cross took away the bodies in plastic bags.

The Fundamentalists, they said, stormed the houses where communists were known to live and dragged them out to be "liquidated", to use the euphemism current in Tripoli.

Sheikh Shaaban, in an interview with Reuters, said such massacres did take place, although the killers were not under the control of his movement.

The movement's commander in the port area, Sheikh Hashem, said: "It was a fair fight. It just happened that the casualties were rather higher on one side than on the other."

A youngster in white robes and sandals, he had a simple reason for the Islamic cause's sudden advance in Tripoli: "It is the grace of God upon us... Islam is the truth and all else is vanity."

But the communists, now lying low for fear of summary execution, see a more sinister process at work.

A party member, speaking on condition that his name and even the place of meeting remained secret, said Palestinians loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat want to take control of the city to use as a refuge in case of a showdown with Syrian troops and Palestinian dissidents.

Mr. Arafat, trapped in Palestinian refugee camps only a few kilometres north of the city with several thousand Fatah fighters, predicted recently an imminent Syrian assault on his last Lebanese stronghold.

Fatah is known to have supplied arms to the Fundamentalists and many reports, denied by both the PLO and Sheikh Shaaban, point to a direct Palestinian role in last week's fighting against the communists.



NABATIYEH ANGER: During the Shi'ite festival of Ashura in the southern Lebanese town of Nabatiyeh, the sudden arrival of an Israeli military

convoy excited the crowd into demonstrations against the Israelis. The soldiers fired into the crowd, and panic followed. (A.P. wirephoto)

British commandos to go ahead with Cyprus drills despite leftwing protests

ISTANBUL (R) — British Marine commandos will land in Cyprus on Oct. 24 for a three-day live firing exercise on the Akamas peninsula, a senior British officer said.

Li-Col. Peter Thomas Donkin of 40 Commando Royal Marines told a press conference aboard the aircraft carrier Hermes that there was no question of cancelling the exercises because of criticism from left-wing politicians in Cyprus.

"We will conduct a live firing exercise in Akamas Peninsula, a long-established sovereign British firing range, later this month," he said.

In Nicosia, a Cyprus government spokesman said Britain had been granted permission to hold the firing exercise at Akamas, a remote area in northwest Cyprus. But the spokesman and sources at the British High Commission expressed surprise at the description of the range as "a long-established sovereign British

firing range."

Both the spokesman and the British sources questioned the use of the word "sovereign." A source at the British High Commission said: "Both we and the Cyprus government are well aware that Akamas is a republican territory which we are allowed to use for forces training from time to time after consultation."

The use of Cypriot territory by troops from NATO countries has become a sensitive political issue on the island in recent weeks.

Officers said the Hermes, which arrived here Monday with 850 commandos aboard, would stay in international waters during the exercise.

Left-wing politicians in Cyprus, including members of the powerful Akel Communist Party, have strongly criticised recent operations on British sovereign bases on the island connected with sup-

port for the British contingent of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force (MNF) in Lebanon.

HMS Hermes took part in NATO exercises in the Aegean Sea codenamed "display Determination 83" and supported British and Turkish forces in an amphibious landing exercise at Saros Bay, north of the Dardanelles last week.

The 28,000 ton carrier is scheduled to leave for Alexandria, Egypt on Friday.

A British military source in Cyprus last week denied local reports that the exercise was connected with planned joint British-Egyptian exercises or with operations of the Beirut peace-keeping force.

The landings would be non-military, he said, adding: "The commandos will stroll ashore — there will not be a John Wayne style assault on the beaches."

Kirkpatrick backs Israel

BALTIMORE (R) — The United States ambassador to the United Nations told a convention of American Jewish women that international support for censures of Israel is changing.

"The moral is clear," said Jeane Kirkpatrick. "If we work harder, we may, with other democratic states be able to change the General Assembly from a forum of hate-filled resolutions to a forum that promotes international brotherhood."

Ms. Kirkpatrick spoke Monday night to the convention of pioneer

women, an American Zionist group allied with Na'amat, Israel's largest women's organisation.

The pioneer women gave Ms. Kirkpatrick its biennial Golda Meir award for human relations, citing her "significant contributions in bridging the gap between the United States and Israel" and her "valiant efforts in defending the cause of freedom."

Ms. Kirkpatrick called Iran, Syria and Libya "so-called peace-loving countries" that frequently sponsor anti-Israel resolutions in the U.N. General Assembly.

Chinese envoy to visit Muscat

MUSCAT (R) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrives in Muscat on Thursday for a four-day visit and talks with Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, Youssef Al-Alawi, the Chinese embassy here said Tuesday.

Mr. Alawi and Mr. Wu, who is currently in Turkey, are expected to discuss international and Middle East issues, including Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq war, informed sources said.

Mubarak visits Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived in Khartoum for talks with Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri on Middle East and African developments.

He was greeted on arrival by Mr. Numeiri and other senior officials and the two presidents then drove to the Al-Shaabi (people's) guest palace where the talks started.

Mr. Mubarak is expected to brief Mr. Numeiri on the outcome

of his recent talks in France, at the United Nations and in the United States, while Mr. Numeiri will discuss his latest contacts with Arab and African leaders on recent developments in the two regions.

Egypt and Sudan are partners in a political and economic integration pact.

Mr. Mubarak was accompanied by Defence Minister Abdel-Halim Abu-Ghazala, Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali and other senior officials.

Romanian leader starts tour of 4 countries

VALLETTA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu arrived here Tuesday for talks with Maltese officials at the start of a tour also taking him to Egypt, Sudan and Cyprus.

Officials in Malta described the visit as "friendly," but made no mention of the topics he would discuss with President Agatha Barbara and Prime Minister Dom Mintoff.

The official Romanian news agency Agerpres said the Malta visit was aimed at strengthening political and economic ties. Premier Mintoff and President Ceausescu would also discuss international issues.

Romania had urged Malta to withdraw demands for a Mediterranean security conference to be included in the final document of the Madrid Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

(CSCE). Malta's stance had threatened to block the signing of the document last month.

But Romania also expressed sympathy for Malta's independent move and warned against efforts to bypass the principle of unanimity if Malta refused to alter its position at Madrid.

Hungarian president starts official visit to Cyprus

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungarian President Pal Losonczi left for an official visit to Cyprus Tuesday, the official MTI news agency reported.

Western diplomatic sources said the composition of Mr. Losonczi's entourage, which includes only junior officials, indicated the visit was intended mainly as a courtesy call and would not have significant results.

Iran denies violations of Afghan airspace

LONDON (R) — Iran Tuesday denies charges it had violated Afghan airspace, saying airspace violations by Afghanistan were increasing.

The Iranian national news agency Irna, received in London, quoted a foreign ministry spokesman as saying Kabul had fabricated allegations that Iranian helicopters had trespassed into Afghan airspace.

Kabul's accusations had been made in order to conceal its own violations of Iranian territory, which had led to numerous Iranian protests, the agency said.

The spokesman, who said no

reply had been made to the protests, added that Kabul's violations of the airspace of Iran and other neighbouring countries had increased over the past few months.

Radio Kabul said last week Iranian helicopters had entered Afghan airspace to help Muslim guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government.

The radio said the violations occurred near the south-western town of Zaranj, a frequent crossing point for guerrillas entering Afghanistan on their way to the mountainous centre of the country.

Soviets pulverise Afghan village in search of rebels

ISLAMABAD (R) — Soviet air and ground troops have flattened almost half a village north of Kabul in a five-day bombardment apparently aimed at flushing out Muslim guerrillas. Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

The bombing was part of a stepped-up campaign against anti-communist guerrillas in the Shomali Valley, which stretches north from the capital of Kabul toward the Soviet Union, they quoted reports from their emb-

assies in Kabul as saying. The hillside village of Istalef, 55 kilometres north of Kabul, took the worst beating from Soviet MiGs and helicopters as well as from ground artillery and tank cannon, they said.

The diplomats said Soviet troops entered the village during lulls in the bombing, which lasted from Oct. 12 to 17, and sought out the houses of Muslim guerrillas known to be fighting against the Soviet-backed government.

McFarlane vows to end feuds with State Department over foreign policy

WASHINGTON (R) — Robert McFarlane, the White House's new national security adviser, has pledged to end internal feuding with the State Department over foreign policy.

Mr. McFarlane, named to succeed William Clark Monday, quickly stressed his main responsibility by saying: "My role is not to be an advocate but to be a coordinator."

"I don't expect any difficulties," he added in an oblique reference to the clashes that rocked previous administrations, when the White House often kept the State Department in the dark.

The most serious differences occurred between President Nixon's national security adviser Henry Kissinger and Secretary of State William Rogers, and President Carter's Zbigniew Brzezinski and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

There have been persistent reports that Mr. Clark and Secretary of State George Shultz have been at odds over policy.

The new national security adviser was Mr. Clark's deputy and has served as Middle East envoy for the past two-and-a-half months.

Mr. McFarlane's first assignment was to join President Reagan Tuesday at a National

Security Council meeting on the Middle East. Mr. Reagan said Monday there would be no change in policy.

The United States backs reconciliation between warring factions in Lebanon, keeps U.S. Marines in the peacekeeping force there despite fresh casualties, and stands on an overall Middle East peace plan calling for self-rule for the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan.

Mr. Reagan said Monday Mr. McFarlane, a 46-year-old retired Marine Corps lieutenant colonel and an expert on arms control, brought "a treasure of experience" to his new post.

TV & RADIO	WHAT'S GOING ON	FOR THE TRAVELLER	USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.
JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 17:30 Koran 17:40 Cartoons 18:05 Invaders from Space 18:30 That's Incredible 19:20 Programme Review 19:30 Programme on Agriculture 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Arabic Series 21:45 Local Series 22:30 Arabic Series 23:20 News in Arabic FOREIGN CHANNEL 18:00 French Programme 19:00 News in French 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:30 News in Arabic 21:10 Documentary 22:00 News in English 22:15 Hill Street Blues RADIO JORDAN 355 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & party on 95.60 KHz. SW 07:00 Morning Show 07:30 News Bulletin 10:00 News Summary 10:05 Morning Show 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 13:05 Pop Session 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Instrumentals 14:30 Animal, Vegetable, Mineral 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instrumentals, Old Favourites 17:00 Jordan Weekly 18:10 Instrumentals 18:30 Over a Cup of Tea, Music 19:00 Classical Notes 19:00 Newsdesk 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 News Summary 21:00 Evening Show 22:00 News Summary 23:00 News Summary 24:00 News Headlines	TODAY'S EVENTS BALLET * The Scottish Ballet performs at the Royal Cultural Centre. EXHIBITION * "Rake's Progress," at the Royal Cultural Centre. VIDEO * French video programme starting at 5:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre. CONCERT * By Al Bar'em troupe, at the Royal Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre - Tel: 6610207 American Centre 44371 American Centre library 41520 British Council 36147-9 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 44303 Spanish Cultural Centre 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre 39777 Hays Arts Centre 665195 Husseini Youth City 667181 Y.W.C.A. 41793 Y.W.M.C.A. 661261 Amman Museum Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 343555 CHURCHES St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luwadih, 37440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, 41559. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71231. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751. Assioma International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeitan, 663249. MUSEUMS Folklore Museum Jewelry and costumes over 1000 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51260. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qura (Citadel Hill). PRAYER TIMES 04:20 Fajr 05:43 Sunrise 11:22 Dhuhur 14:34 Asr 17:00 Maghreb 18:23 Isha	AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. 081 53250, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS 08:15 Karachi (PAK) 08:45 Cairo (EG) 09:00 Jeddah (SAU) 09:05 Amman (RJ) 09:15 Abu Dhabi (UAE) 09:30 Dubai (UAE) 09:40 Dhahran (KU) 09:45 Larnaca (CY) 09:55 Kuwait (KU) 10:15 Beirut (LEB) 10:35 Muscat, Bahrain (KLM) 11:00 Cairo (EG) 11:40 Kuwait (KAC) 12:25 Bucharest (ROM) 12:30 Jeddah (SAU) 12:35 Amman (RJ) 12:40 Cordu (RJ) 12:55 London (RJ) 13:00 Bangkok (TH) 13:10 Madrid (RJ) 13:15 New York, Vienna (RJ) 13:45 Athens (GR) 14:00 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 14:35 Frankfurt (LH) 14:40 Zurich, Geneva, Athens (SR) 14:50 Beirut (MEA) 15:00 Damascus (RJ) 15:05 Amman (RJ) 15:10 Cairo (EG) 15:15 Baghdad (IR) 15:20 Belgrade (YUGOSLAVIA) DEPARTURES 06:15 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 06:30 Beirut (RJ) 07:00 Athens (RJ) 08:30 Athens (OA) 09:00 Rome (Alitalia) 09:30 Karachi (PAK) 10:25 Larnaca (LH) 11:15 Vienna, New York (RJ) 11:20 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) 11:30 Athens (GR) 11:30 Cairo (RJ) 11:50 Athens, Amsterdam (KLM) 12:00 London (RJ) 12:35 Larnaca (CY) MONEY EXCHANGE Local selling price in Jds Belgian franc 68/9 69.3 Dutch guilder 125/3 126.3 Egyptian pound 356/4 359.6 French franc 45/10 46.1 Iraqi dinar 41/0 41.4 Italian lire (for 100) 23 23.2 Japanese yen (for 100) 156.9 157.8 Kuwaiti dinar 126/0 126.3 Lebanese lira 70/5 71.5 Omani rial 104/8 105.6 Qatari riyal 90/10 90.5 Saudi riyal 105/ 105.5 Swedish crown 46/8 47.1 Swiss franc 173/2 174.2 Syrian lira 54/8 55.0 UAE dirham 94/3 94.8 U.S. sterling pound 54/5 55.0 U.S. dollar 366 366 W. German mark 140/3 141.1 WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. A slight increase in temperature is expected, with light and variable winds becoming southeasterly moderate sometimes. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg. C Amman 17/28 Aqaba 17/31 Djordan 13/31 Jordan Valley 10/24 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 28, Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.	EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 75111 Fire, fire, police 199 Blood bank 75121 City Defence rescue 66111 Police headquarters 22901-5 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 56390-1 Electric power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 71125-5 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333 HOSPITALS Husseini Medical Centre 81381-32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Al-Balqa Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabbal Amman Maternity 42362 Mafha, J. Amman 36140 Palestine, Shmeitan 664171-4 Shameitan Hospital 669131 University Hospital 84584-5 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Muasher Hospital 667227-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665292 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164 Italian, Al-Muhajirin 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111 Army, Marka 91611 NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Awad Al Hawandeh 77665 MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in Jds per kg. Apple (American) 200/180 Apple (European) 170/150 Apple (Golden) 170/150 Apple (Starkent) 170/150 Apple (Spartan) 200/180 Apple (local) 300/250 Banana 270/220 Banana (Mukammur) 250/200 Beans 300/250 Cabbage 150/120 Carrot 170/140 Cauliflower (white) 150/120 Cucumber (large) 200/170 Cucumber (small) 200/170 Dates 320/280 Eggplant (large) 150/120 Eggplant (small) 200/160 Figs 400/350 Fakous 160/130 Garlic 300/250 Grapes (white) 270/240 Grapes (black) 240/210 Grapefruit 130/100 Guava 250/200 Lemon 160/130 Lemon (yellow) 180/150 Marrow (large) 200/170 Marrow (small) 280/250 Melon 180/150 Mellon (super) 180/150 Olives 250/220 Onion (dry) 130/110 Onion (wet) 350/300 Oranges (Abu Surra) 250/220 Oranges (Shamouti) 180/150 Peaches 350/300

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Sources of Umayyad era discussed at conference

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, chairman of the fourth conference on the history of *Bi'at al Sham*, Tuesday participated in the morning session at the University of Jordan.

The session tackled topics on the Umayyad origins of the Arab Kingdom, the history of the Bani Amro in the Um Al Jimal area and the Armenian presence in Jerusalem.

Prince Hassan listened to discussions on the topics and the historical sources of the subject, particularly those in Greek and Latin. The scarcity of Arab historical sources on the Umayyad nature of the Arab Kingdom was also discussed in the morning session.

The presence of minorities in the region and the cultural content of the Byzantine era were also discussed in the session.

Reagan welcomes new ambassador from Jordan

Following is the text of President Ronald Reagan's reply to remarks made by newly appointed Jordanian Ambassador Ibrahim Izziddin upon presenting his letter of credence:

Mr. Ambassador:

I am delighted to welcome you to the United States, and to accept the letters of credence and recall. As the trusted emissary of a valued friend, I know you will convey to His Majesty (King Hussein) my warm greetings and respect. On behalf of the government and people of the United States of America, I take this opportunity to extend best wishes to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and to reaffirm the strength and the scope of the good friendship between our two countries. This friendship, shared now for over a quarter of a century, is based on our great esteem for Jordan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence, and its unique and enduring character. Jordan may be justly proud of its achievements, especially in the economic arena. In the field of education, Jordan has become the model for the Arab region. Jordan plays an essential role in maintaining the area's security and its political priorities have made Jordan a leading force for stability in the region, a position I am determined to support.

It is to His Majesty King Hussein that the Middle East must turn for wise counsel and statesmanship. Jordan's leadership in the difficult and delicate search for a pragmatic, just, lasting and comprehensive peace is worthy of the respect and admiration of any leader. Jordan's special historical relationship with the Palestinian people puts Jordan in a unique position to assist the Palestinians to achieve their legitimate rights, and we value Jordan's role and guidance as we pursue the shared dream of peace. In the years to come, Mr. Ambassador, the achievement of the goals we share for progress towards peace and stability will depend on our continuing close relationship and the best possible understanding between our two peoples and governments. As His Majesty's representative in Washington you play a vital role in promoting that understanding. I wish you every success in your mission here.

Children's development meeting begins in Irbid

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on "Children: Playing versus books" starts Wednesday at the Princess Iman Children's Library in Irbid.

Specialists in children's literature will take part in the seminar which is coinciding with the

second festival of children's books also being held in Irbid. The festival is being organised by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DELDA) in cooperation with the Jordanian Society of Housewives.

Conferees debate merit of different concrete types

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first international conference on concrete technology, being held at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman, discussed in its session Tuesday four working papers dealing with reinforced concrete, its uses in developing countries and quality control.

Participants also discussed the different types of reinforced concrete and the best ones for facilitating the retention of heat in

buildings. The attendees later visited the Suweilth-Jerash crossroads project and the permanent site of the Yarmouk University and were briefed on the practical application of concrete in the new buildings.

Taking part in the four-day conference, which opened Sunday, are specialists from 20 Arab and foreign nations in addition to Jordan.

WHO highlights nursing profession

AMMAN (Petra) — World Health Organisation (WHO) regional Mediterranean regional committee conference, which was opened here by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday at the Royal Cultural Centre, discussed in its Tuesday meeting a report submitted by WHO's regional Director Hussein Al Jazari on joint cooperation between WHO and its member countries.

In particular the report highlighted the improvement in health conditions in member countries and the role of the nursing and maternity profession in the "Health for all by the year 2000" strategy.

Also discussed Tuesday, were topics on: Alcohol and its problems, dental health care, the workings of the world health society, the water supply in the area, cooperation with the U.N. in affairs related to medical health, and social aid to North Yemen and to refugees in Lebanon and Cyprus.

The committee also discussed the health conditions of Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories, combating tuberculosis in the world, and protection against heart and blood vessel diseases.



From left to right: Taher Hikmat, Akram Zu'aiter, Ahmad Tarawneh and Fawad Qagish of the Jordanian delegation to the International Parliamentary Union in Seoul, South Korea after their arrival Tuesday at the Queen Alia International Airport (Petra photo).

King opens aviation safety seminar

By Ara Voskian
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Monday inaugurated the "Aviation Safety Seminar" which is being organised and sponsored by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, and is being held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce conference hall.

In his inaugural address, the King assured the audience of the importance of cooperation among those committed to aviation safety.

"The weak points in the complete formula of civil aviation operation worldwide must be constantly sought, identified and rectified," the King said.

"Areas of dangerous ignorance in all levels of societies involved in civil aviation the world over must be persistently and courageously

eliminated," the King added. "Areas of possible human failure in all aspects in the civil aviation operation either through the lack of adequate training and preparation or through the onset of complacency must be identified," the King said.

Alia Chairman and President Ali Ghandour, who delivered the welcoming speech, praised King Hussein's continuous efforts and support for Alia which, he said, enabled the Jordanian carrier to have a prominent position in aviation not only the Middle East but all over the world.

Mr. Ghandour stressed the importance of holding this regional seminar in Jordan and said that Arab aviation is the fastest growing in the world.

"There are 20 Arab carriers with around 350 jets carrying 26 million passengers annually," the

Alia chairman said.

Jordan, he said, like other countries in the Arab World, always endeavours to ensure absolute safety in the field of aviation.

He added that the seminar would tackle subjects pertaining to human attitudes and reactions that affect high quality aviation performance.

The Jordanian and foreign speakers will discuss several subjects including accident prevention, pilot error and judgement, operational performance and dissemination of information.

Chairman of the seminar Najib Halabi, delivering the opening remarks, said that the aim of the seminar is to exchange opinions and experiences, in order to preserve the standard of aviation.

Mr. Halabi also thanked King Hussein for inaugurating the seminar.

Zaben visits journalists association

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications Mohammad Al Zaben Tuesday visited the Jordanian Journalists' Association (JJA), where he met JJA President Mahmoud Al Kayed and council members. A number of association members were present during the visit.

Mr. Kayed welcomed the minister and expressed the journalists' appreciation of the efforts made by the ministry to satisfy the needs of journalists' body for communication services.

Mr. Zaben pointed out that the ministry, starting from next March, will start installing a network of 112,000 telephone lines to be completed by the end of 1984. He expressed regret at the difficulty in securing the necessary funds needed for expanding telephone service projects, and added that the installation and maintenance of every telephone set in Jordan costs more than JD 500.

The minister added that the charge for local and long-distance calls are decided according to the rules laid out by the Arab Telecommunications Union, with regard to inter-Arab services, and International Telecommunication Union for all other calls.

3 vocational training institutes open

AMMAN (Petra) — The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) has started using its training centres in a number of governorates and districts of Jordan after making them ready for opening.

VTC Director-General Munther Al Masri said that teaching at the Hakama in Irbid and at Al Hashimiyyeh and Yajouz in the Zarqa districts, have opened, and the corporation will be handing the centres of Ein Al Basha, Wadi Al Seer, Sahab and Central Ghor in the Jordan Valley over within the next three months. VTC has planned to open 11 centres by the end of 1984. The unfinished ones include one in Northern Ghor,

another at Queisemeh and a driving school in Zarqa.

Each of the new centres can accommodate 600 trainees annually, and a three-year vocational training system is effective in these centres, Mr. Masri said. The three newly completed centres include three categories of specialisation covering the mechanics, electricity and construction fields. These fields have been selected according to local needs in the area of their establishment, Mr. Masri said.

The total cost of the 11 centres is expected to be about JD 10m, financed by the Jordanian treasury, international institutions and some friendly governments.

Sudanese head elected president of union's council

Arab success marks Seoul conference, says Tarawneh

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation headed by Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Tarawneh returned home Tuesday evening after participating in the work of the 70th conference of the International Parliamentary Union held in the South Korean capital, Seoul.

Mr. Tarawneh told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the conference had discussed several international issues among which was the Middle East conflict, and the Palestinian question in particular.

Discussions focused on the Israeli settlement problem in the occupied Arab territories, where the conference denounced Israel's establishment of settlements in violation of international law. The conference demanded the removal of these settlements. Mr. Tarawneh said.

The world parliamentarians also denounced the arbitrary measures adopted by the occupation authorities against Arab citizens in the occupied territories. Mr. Tarawneh added.

On the Iran-Iraq war, the conference urged fresh effort to end the war and expressed an appreciation of Iraq's peaceful stance. Mr. Tarawneh said. The conference appealed to the Iranian leadership to respond positively to peace initiatives aimed at ending the war, he added.

The conference also discussed the role of legislatures in supporting and promoting the role of the United Nations to enable the world organisation to play a more effective part in solving international disputes and establishing a new international economic order that guarantees justice for all world nations. Mr. Tarawneh said.

Jordan's delegation, in cooperation with other Arab delegations, had contributed a lot to the success of the conference, Mr. Tarawneh said. Also Arab coordination enabled election of the head of the Sudanese delegation to the conference, Izzeddin Al Sayed, as president of the union's council for the coming three years with a large majority over his European rivals, he said.

Mr. Tarawneh expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by the South Korean government to facilitate the conference's success. He also praised the role of South Korean parliamentarians in achieving that success.

Mr. Tarawneh and members of the delegation, the Upper House of Parliament members Akram Zu'aiter and Fawad Qagish and National Consultative Council (NCC) members Taher Hikmat and Yahya Al Drubi, were received at Queen Alia International Airport by Upper House and NCC members and a number of senior Jordanian officials.



Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour (third from right) Monday opens the 16th session of the general committee of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (Petra photo)

Body reviews standardisation projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) general committee resumed its meetings Tuesday with the participation of delegates representing standardisation authorities in 18 member Arab countries.

The committee reviewed AOSM's working programme for the current year especially the

reports of the AOSM's technical committees, and also reviewed recommendations of the fourth meeting of the Arab standardisation directors which ended in Amman Sunday.

On Monday Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour had opened the conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel which is the 16th session of the general committee

of the AOSM. At the beginning of the session, Mr. Asfour made a speech in which he stressed the importance of standardisation for industry and development in Arab countries.

Mr. Asfour also praised the organisation's efforts in the field of Arab standardisation and metrology in order to create a modern Arab civilisation.

Arabian oryx return to the wild after sixty years

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AZRAQ — First at a trickle, then at what may be called, in Jordanian terms, a small stampede, the herd of 31 oryx at the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve here emerged from their pens Tuesday and galloped into the relative freedom of a 22-square-kilometre protected area — returning again to the Jordanian wild after an absence of some 60 years. Two of the female oryx are expected to give birth any day now, which will bring the population of Jordanian oryx to 33.

The actual releasing of the oryx into the wild was performed by His Majesty King Hussein, accompanied by Queen Noor and the visiting Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, in his personal capacity and as president of the World Wildlife Fund. The fund and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature are two of the key institutions that have helped both the oryx effort and the other projects of the Jordanian Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN).

Also attending Tuesday's ceremony were Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, ministers, senior officials, ambassadors, members of the RSCN, Azraq area dignitaries and other guests. RSCN President Anis Mousasher addressed the guests and thanked all those who have helped the society achieve its objectives. Queen Noor handed out tokens of appreciation to those who have been instrumental in the oryx project.

The ceremony Tuesday was the culmination of a 21-year-old international effort to preserve the few existing Arabian oryx in the world and protect them in captivity so that they could breed and be reintroduced into the wild once again.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature in 1962 established an international commission named the Arabian Oryx World Herd Trustees. The commission obtained eight oryx from

Oman, the United States, East Germany, West Germany and Switzerland, followed by six others from Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

This small herd bred successfully in captivity in the Phoenix, Arizona (USA) zoo, and soon was divided into three groups in Phoenix, Texas, and California. The Arabian oryx disappeared from the Jordanian landscape about 60 years ago, though herds of wild oryx lived in Oman until as recently as 1973, when they were finally hunted to extinction. It was fortunate that a few animals were caught and protected in Oman, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

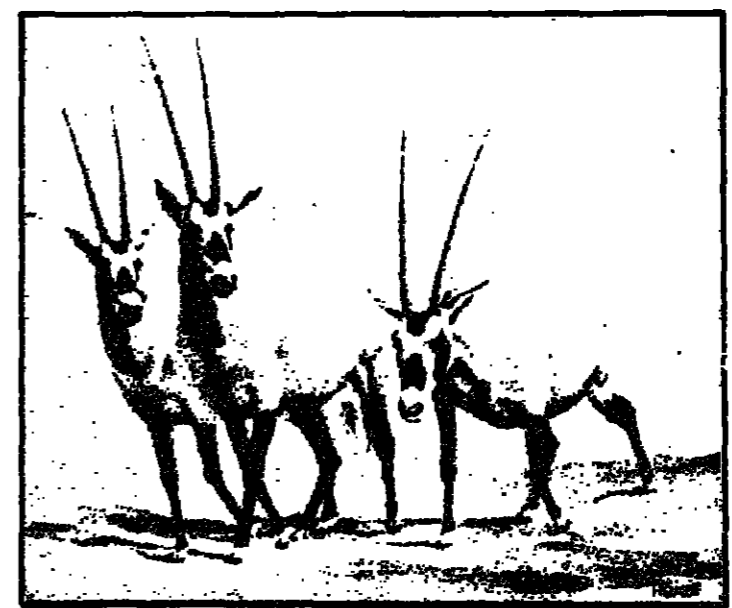
In 1975 the RSCN established the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve and requested through the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the reintroduction of the Arabian oryx to Jordan from the Arabian Oryx World Herd Trustees. The WWF supported the request, and studies were made to ensure the success of the experiment. In 1978, 4 males were sent to Shaumari and were kept in enclosures. Six months later, they were followed by 4 females.

By late 1978 the RSCN was presented with 3 additional Arabian oryx from Qatar. Since then the herd bred successfully in captivity to a total of 31. The RSCN experimented initially by releasing some of these animals partially to the wild, and the results were reassuring.

The Greater Reserve

The RSCN recently completed a study that recommended the ultimate establishment of 12 wildlife reserves throughout the country, each representing a different climate and terrain. Two wildlife reserves have been established to date, both at Azraq. The Shaumari reserve holds the oryx and will soon include several species of gazelle, the Syrian onager (wild ass) and ostriches. The aim is to expand the fenced-in area of the reserve to cover a total of 600,000 dunums, to be called the Greater Azraq Reserve.

The Azraq Wetland Reserve is the other protected area, and includes the area's valuable marshes and freshwater pools.



Some of the Arabian oryx

The next two reserves to be set up are at Zubia, in north Jordan, at the Dead Sea area around the estuary of the Wadi Mujib.

Mr. Mousasher, president of the RSCN, says the reserves will always be open to the public on a controlled basis, and special arrangements, including elevated viewing platforms, will be made to encourage visitors to enter the reserves and view the wildlife.

He particularly hopes that scientific researchers in Jordan and from abroad would take advantage of the reserves to conduct studies on the natural flora and fauna of Jordan. One advantage of the protected reserves is the opportunity they provide for researchers to test out new species of hybrid plants that would not be subjected to the ravages of goats or humans. Already, Mr. Mousasher says, wild species of plants that were thought to have disappeared from Jordan are reappearing inside the protected areas.

Mrs. Leila Sharaf, a member of the RSCN board, also notes that the establishment of reserves takes on an added significance when one recognises the danger of desertification that threatens many areas of Jordan, including its major urban centres of Amman and Zarqa.

In his speech here Tuesday, Mr. Mousasher said: "My colleagues, members of the RSCN and myself work in the belief that nature, with all its basic components, soil, water, air and wildlife, is a heritage to all generations equally."

Each generation can enjoy nature fully and utilise its resources in the best possible manner for the comfort and happiness of mankind provided that these resources are not in any way abused or depleted nor its natural balance tampered with destructively, thus decreasing nature's ability to give and reproduce.

"We also work, with the belief that the success of economic development aiming at the welfare of mankind, in the long run, depends on the extent to which it conforms to the requirements of conservation."

"Natural resources, including wildlife, are being subjected to a considerable degree of abuse resulting in the depletion of large areas of arable land. The different species of wildlife have decreased in quantity and some species have become endangered or extinct. This is unfortunately happening despite our awareness of the importance of each and every species. Many a species may become the

cure for a disease or the nucleus for an improved variety of a plant or an animal which may in turn become a source of nutrition or an aspect of natural beauty in the future."

"Therefore we share the efforts of the world society, in its anxiety to conserve nature and protect each and every species of wildlife by different means, one of which is the establishment of natural reserves."

I take this opportunity to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the friends of our society who have helped us realise our objectives, particularly:

1. The Board of Trustees of the Arabian oryx programme which was initiated by WWF and IUCN. This institution is responsible for saving the Arabian oryx from extinction and for providing us with the original 8 heads of our herd.

2. WWF for providing us with equipment and technical assistance and know-how.

3. H.R.H. Sultan Qaboos of Oman for extending his generosity to us and financing all the equipment necessary to fence the Shaumari Reserve.

4. H.R.H. Hamad Al Thani of Qatar for contributing towards the success of our project and for providing us with 3 heads of Oryx.

5. H.E. The Prime Minister for offering every assistance possible to our society through the various government institutions.

6. The Royal Jordanian Armed Forces for assisting us in building the fence for our reserve and for executing numerous projects for our society.

7. Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, for transporting the various animals from different parts of the world to Jordan and for contributing to a great extent in all our activities.

For Tuesday's occasion, the RSCN also organised an exhibition about all aspects of Jordanian wildlife, including displays of stuffed animals, Jordanian fauna in ancient rock art, mosaics, frescoes (Amra) and stone carvings, drawings and photographs of Jordan's flora and fauna, rodents, desert plants and the Azraq area in prehistoric times.

PLA loyalists urge chief's dismissal

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian commando group Saiga said it no longer recognised Mr. Arafat as legitimate leader of the PLO.

In a statement carried by SANA, the group called on Palestinian fighters to reject what it called corrupt policies within the organisation.

The Fateh statement issued in Kuwait stressed the need for Palestinian unity and pledged to abide by orders issued by Mr. Arafat.

"Khadr's statement clearly shows that Syria wants to strike at and tear apart the PLO and create an alternative one which would be run by Syrian intelligence," it said.

Fateh committee meets

Meanwhile Fateh Central Committee members met here Tuesday to help solve the five-month-old rift in the group, Palestinian officials said.

They said meetings which started Monday, chaired by Farouk Kaddumi, chief foreign affairs spokesman of the PLO, would draft a future strategy for the group.

The officials did not elaborate. But Kuwait's daily Al Qabas said Fateh's Central Committee had decided already to expel Arafat opponents from the group.

The rebels are seeking a tougher stand on policy, armed struggle against Israel and a collective leadership.

The committee has also decided to hold a general congress meeting in January to endorse the new Fateh strategy, the Amman daily Sawt Al Shaab said.

Sawt Al Shaab also said that the Central Committee, in coordination with Mr. Arafat and his deputy, Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), both of whom are now stationed in Tripoli, north Lebanon, has decided to convene meetings of Fateh regional leaderships in the first week of November. The committee also decided to send delegations to various Arab countries and other friendly nations.

Accordingly, Fateh executives Salah Khalaf and Mahmoud Abbas arrived in Aden Tuesday to brief Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) leader George Habash and Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) leader Nayef Hawatmeh. Sawt Al Shaab said, PFLP and DFLP are two groups under the PLO umbrella which groups eight factions including Fateh.

Hassan, Natche in Amman

In the meantime, Hani Al Hassan and Rafiq Al Natche, both members of the Fateh Central Committee, arrived in Amman Tuesday to brief Jordanian officials and Palestine National Council (PNC) members living in Jordan on the outcome of the Kuwait meeting, sources said.

The Kuwait meeting was expected to issue a statement later on reports that PLO forces in north Lebanon were involved in last week's fighting between Lebanese factions.

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What price Arab-U.S. friendship?

By Tareq Masarweh

SHAMIR'S GOVERNMENT has pinned its hopes on linking the national currency, the shekel, with the U.S. dollar with the hope of rescuing the shaky Israeli economy. Shamir is hoping to have the dollar prop up the shekel with the ultimate objective of controlling the rampant inflation now running at the rate of 140 per cent. He is hoping to reduce government expenditure at the rate of \$1 million a year.

Because Shamir is not Menachem Begin nor is he David Ben Gourion, and because the Likud and its partners in the coalition are unable to present a well-planned performance, the government's weakness has been exposed and the new

plans have been bitterly criticised. In fact there was a public outcry, with the Histadrut (Labour Federation) and the Israelis of all walks of life expressing indignation and dismay, as they see in the plan an offence to their "national pride". As a result of the outcry, the Israeli finance minister resigned his post, and this resignation has cast a dark shadow on the future of Shamir's government.

Even before the revealing of these plans for propping Israel's economy with the help of the dollar and before the minister's resignation, we believed that the dream of Zionism in establishing a nation in the

"Promised Land" based on the ideologies of Zionist leaders, has ended up with the founding of a forward imperialist entity in the midst of the strategically important Arab region.

The Zionists used to sell their dreams to the German Kaiser, presenting them as a model of European civilisation, and, later, they tried to sell the idea of an Israeli state to the bankrupt Ottoman Empire, presenting it as a source of income and a means for financing the Sultan's extravagant spending on his harem. The Zionists later sold the idea of an Israeli state to the British imperialists, pledging it will serve as a foothold

for the West in Arab Asia, similar to the role of Rhodesia in Africa.

The Zionist leaders have actually ended up with the establishment of an illegitimate American state in the Middle East, a state in which Washington has accumulated all manifestations of aggression, it provided it with food and weapons, housed the Zionists in Arab property and homes and unleashed their aggressiveness and hatred towards the Arab Nation with instructions to implement the most sinister and evil plans ever concocted.

We have long, but rightly, believed that the Arabs are giving the Israelis a bigger size

than they really are, and similarly we view American policy from a wider angle than we should really do. The more we downgraded Arab national action, the bigger the imagined size of the Zionists looked. The further Arab national action receded, the more aggressive the American-Zionists one had been. The strength that we see in Israel is in fact our own weakness and the fragility of our political infrastructure and internal corruption.

U.S. influence in the Arab World reflects our ill-confidence in the masses and the Arab people's ability to wage wars of freedom and dignity. Despite all the disasters and tragedies that have befallen us over the past four decades we have failed to understand the truth about Israel and Zionism. We have not yet understood our national role; and our inability and weakness have led us to recognise Israel and even express admiration of its "abilities". Had we realised the nature of the U.S. and its policies, we wouldn't have regarded America as our wailing wall — seeking its assistance and resorting to it whenever we are in trouble, promoting its mediation role and accepting its "fair judgment". Had we understood U.S. policies, Washington wouldn't have had this vast influence on our capitals and this dominating presence in our midst. —Al Rai

High priestess' catharsis

JEANE KIRKPATRICK, probably upset, if not down-right angry, at being side-stepped for the national security adviser job, must have again found it cathartic to take it out on the Arabs. "If we work harder," she told a group of American Zionist women on Monday night, "we may, with other democratic states, be able to change the General Assembly from a forum of hate-filled resolutions to a forum that promotes international brotherhood."

(By "International Brotherhood", the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations meant international support, rather than censures, for the state of Israel. What else could it be?)

But what Mrs. Kirkpatrick said there is not really the point, as many of us already know that the high-priestess of American conservative thinking repeats herself in defending what she likes to call Israeli "democracy", and invariably gets a Zionist medal for it, almost every day. The moral of the story, however, is something different.

In Vienna last week, a threat by the United States to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) prevented the adoption of an Iraqi resolution to suspend Israel's membership in the world organisation. The background to the proposed resolution, as we all know, is the Israeli attack against the Iraqi nuclear reactor in June, 1981, which has gone unpunished until now, because Washington must have insisted the attack was carried out either in self-defence or in keeping with Israel's "democratic" practices.

This is then how Mrs. Kirkpatrick and her administration think, when she says that there has been a "growing reluctance among other nations, primarily in the African bloc to accept without question resolutions by Arab states that condemn Israel". Threats by the U.S. are not at all mentioned, nor do the Americans want to say what kind of regimes, African or otherwise, are those which condone Israeli policies and American support for them.

The moral of Mrs. Kirkpatrick's latest attack on the Arab states is indeed clear. The United States is succeeding, perhaps slowly but surely, in defending Israel's freedom to hit, kill and destroy because Washington has been more than willing to use coercion and threats against any force that stands in the way, and much more than before. Naturally, the U.S. envoy's talk about "international brotherhood" becomes nothing but deception mixed with rubbish — at best.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Jordan honours commitments

JORDAN HAS always been keen to honour its commitments towards the other Arab countries in both words and deeds. Jordan's geographical location, its membership of the Arab Nation and the treaty of Arab defence binds Jordan towards fulfilling its commitments. Not only that but Jordan has inherited the Great Arab Revolt of Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali and is following its principles in the struggle to achieve for the Arabs, liberation, unity and progress.

In his statement Monday the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief said that Jordan will be faithful to its commitments and will not fail in responding to any Arab request for help and assistance. He referred to the Zionist propaganda that said Jordan wanted to create a rapid deployment force of its own, and pointed out that this propaganda is aimed at preventing Jordan from acquiring advanced weapons to defend itself against Zionist aggression. This propaganda, he said, came as a direct result of Jordan's rejection of the Camp David agreement and because Jordan has always believed that the Palestine problem is the crux of the whole Middle East issue — something not to the taste of Israel and Zionism. The Zionist campaign against Jordan has been linked to the recent threats to shipping in the Gulf in a bid to thwart any attempt by Jordan to purchase arms from the U.S. However, Jordan will remain committed to assisting all the Gulf nations as well as all other Arab countries whenever it is called on to do that.

Al Dustour: Arms for Arab defence

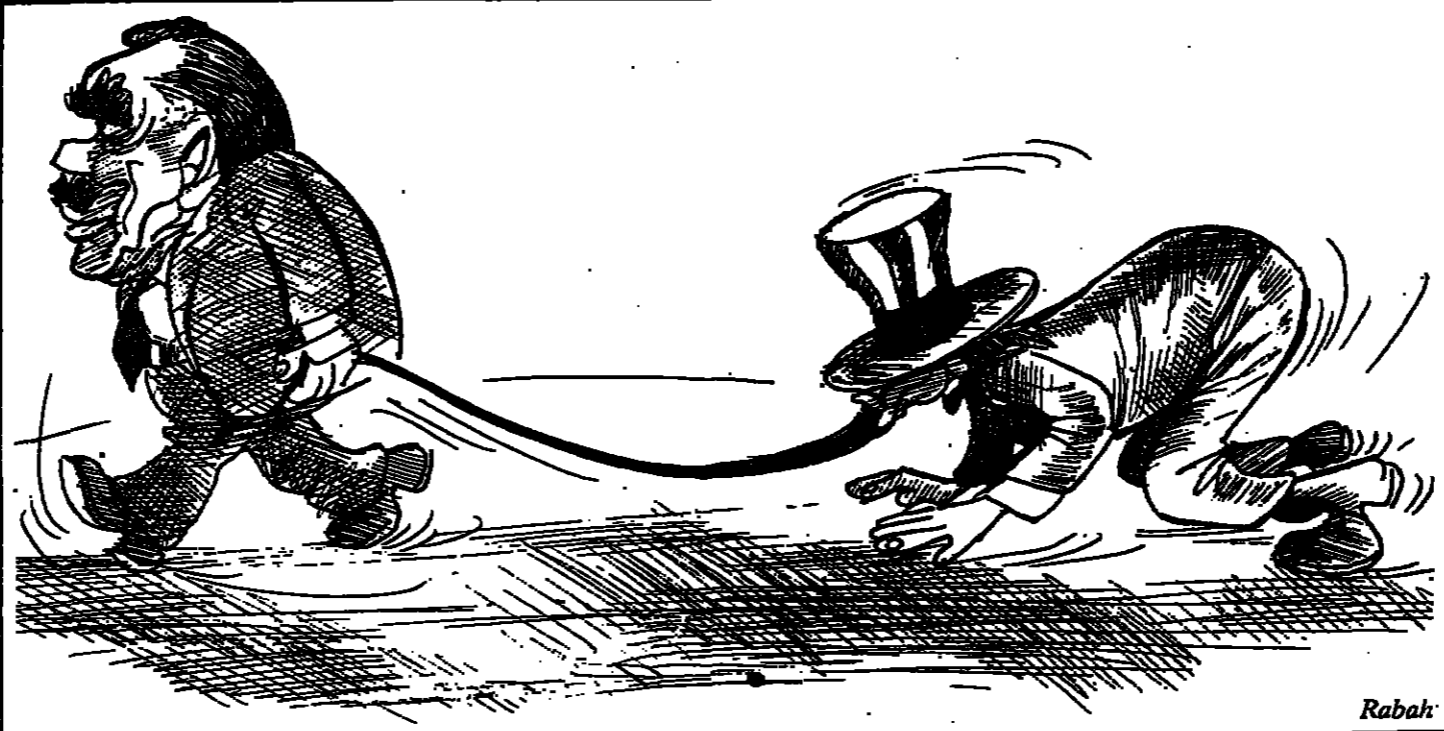
ISRAEL IS trying with all its might to stop Jordan from acquiring any piece of weaponry from the United States — its main supplier of arms because it believes that all arms in the hands of the Jordanian forces will be directed against the Israelis. Israel is raising an outcry in the United States Congress about Jordan's arms requests, and it has published false reports in U.S. newspapers about Jordan's intention of creating a rapid deployment force with the aim of harming Jordan's prestige and fouling our country's endeavours to honour its national commitments. Jordan is committed to defend the Gulf region and all other Arab countries with whatever means it possesses. Jordan's position has always been so and its stands and actions in the 1973 Arab-Israeli War and the current Iraq-Iran War bear witness to that attitude.

Jordan, which inherited the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, is bound and fully committed to rallying to the aid of other Arab so as to defend them with all the means it can against external aggression. Israel's propaganda campaign against Jordan reminds us of similar campaigns against Saudi Arabia to buy tanks and AWACS planes from Western nations. Jordan buys arms for the sole reason of defending itself and the other Arab countries against Zionist aggression and foreign domination.

Sawt Al Shaab: Support to continue

JORDAN HAS no secret to hide and does not conceal its attempts to equip its armed forces with advanced weapons so as to defend itself and the Arab Nation against aggression. It conducts talks with the United States for the sake of acquiring modern weapons to increase the armed forces defensive capabilities. The Zionist campaigns launched against Jordan nowadays are designed to foil this country's attempts to purchase modern arms. Our enemies have been linking our endeavours to acquire arms with a false claim about Jordanian intentions of creating a special rapid deployment force to operate in the Gulf.

These enemies are working hard to prevent us from strengthening our armed forces, and the false reports about this imaginary deployment force are designed to harm our national stance and objectives. Of course Jordan will continue to extend every support to the Gulf nations to help them repel aggression.



Turkey holds elections under martial law

By Hugh Carnegie

ANKARA Turkey holds general elections next month to end three years of military rule, but the form of the poll and of the future government have aroused criticism at home and abroad.

Three parties and 50 independent candidates have been allowed to run in the elections due on Nov. 6, but under new election laws they were permitted to paste up campaign posters or publish party advertisements only from Saturday.

One party was placed under official investigation last week after its supporters were reported to have worn party badges, breaking election laws prohibiting anything which could be construed as a party uniform.

Party leaders, mindful of the insistence by the ruling generals on decorous campaigning, have even taken to paying courtesy calls on one another, drawing roars of disbelief from Turks who vividly recall the mud-slinging style of politics before the September 1980 coup.

The generals have often said that such political mayhem helped bring about the violence that swamped Turkey before the takeover and led them to opt for a new, strictly-controlled political system.

But the new system and the method of its imposition have come under attack at home and abroad. Critics say it does not amount to the true democracy the generals promised immediately after the coup they would eventually restore.

After concentrating initially on rooting out political violence, which had claimed up to 25 lives a day, by rounding up some 30,000 people and capturing thousands of arms, the ruling National Security

Council (NSC) abolished all previous political parties.

These had been dominated by the Conservative Justice Party and the Socialist Republican Peoples' Party of former prime ministers Suleyman Demirel and Bulent Ecevit respectively.

Mr. Demirel and Mr. Ecevit, bitter foes who in the late 1970s battled to sustain weak coalition governments in the absence of majorities for their parties, were denied the chance of a comeback when they were included in political bans of up to 10 years on hundreds of former politicians.

Throughout the introduction of these measures, coup leader Gen. Kenan Evren, now installed as president for seven years, repeatedly declared in public appearances that a completely fresh political start was to be made.

Reminding his countrymen that the 1980 coup was the third military intervention in government in 20 years, Gen. Evren said old politicians and old ways had to be abandoned in favour of a new stable system.

A key to this was a fresh constitution approved by more than 40 per cent of voters in a referendum last November. Throwing out the old bi-cameral parliamentary system in which the prime minister was predominant, it gave enhanced executive powers to the president, who became the chief figure, with the powers of a single 400-seat assembly considerably reduced.

Gen. Evren's four colleagues on the NSC were also guaranteed initial government positions under temporary articles attached to the constitution.

As well as allowing for the re-creating of laws governing political parties and elections, the charter also paved the way for new curbs later imposed on the press, trade

unions and professional associations.

The NSC retained the right to exclude any party or candidate from elections. It has used this repeatedly to expunge any party or person it felt was connected with former political groups.

It also used the veto mechanism to prevent a horde of small parties from crowding the polls.

Within a month of the ban on politics being lifted last April, the NSC abolished one new group and locked up Mr. Demirel and 16 other well-known former political figures for political meddling. They were released last month.

By vetoing hundreds of prospective founding members of parties, the generals also ruled out a further 11 parties from the general elections by not approving the 30 founders they legally required by an Aug. 24 deadline.

Among those excluded were the Social Democratic Party, whose original leader Erdal Inonu was vetoed, and the Conservative Right Way Party. Both showed signs of widespread support.

Only three parties, all careful to express their support for the coup and subsequent military rule, were approved to enter the elections, which will be held under continuing martial law.

A second round of vetoes followed in which all but 50 out of almost 500 prospective independent parliamentary candidates were struck off, and even many candidates of the approved parties were ruled out.

Against this background, the Council of Europe's Parliamentary assembly rejected the forthcoming parliament as undemocratic and refused to admit Turkish delegates to its fold. The decision reflected widespread criticism in Europe, especially among socialist parties, of the

generals' rule.

Criticism also emerged at home, although there has been no sign of mass disorder. Mr. Inonu declared after his party failed to make the elections that the poll would not be democratic, and he now faces a jail term for his pains.

Two prominent newspaper columnists have been prosecuted, with imprisonment the likely outcome, for similar comments.

Former Prime Minister Ecevit also spoke out, breaking a year-long silence with an oblique attack on the new system.

But the generals clearly believe that the mass of people approve their actions and will be satisfied with the approved parties when they vote, as they must do on pain of a fine.

The choice is between one right-wing party led by a former general, which lists Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu among its candidates, one right-wing party led by former economy chief Turgut Ozal and one mildly leftist group, the Populist Party.

The policies of the three have not been very clearly defined so far.

Former Gen. Turgut Sunalp's Nationalist Democracy Party surpasses anti-Communism as its main platform, while Mr. Ozal's Motherland Party concentrates on forging economic prosperity through a mix of free market measures and state incentives.

The leaders of each party will meet in Turkey's first televised election debate later this month, and will also each face a broadcast press conference.

In the meantime, there is little sign of the fervent election fever that marked elections of old. The only opinion poll so far published showed 70 per cent of the electorate have yet to decide how to vote.

Trudeau keen on easing East-West tension

By Paul Majendie

OTTAWA — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has launched a peace offensive aimed at toning down "megaphone diplomacy" between the superpowers.

The phrase was coined by former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and Mr. Trudeau was quick to use it recently to distance himself from the headline anti-Soviet stance of visiting British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Mr. Trudeau's fears of a nuclear holocaust and carefully measured criticism of both superpowers have been consistent themes in recent speeches, fuelling speculation here that he may seek a mediator's role and accept a long-standing invitation from Soviet leader Yuri Andropov to visit Moscow.

Mrs. Thatcher stressed here and in Washington that North Atlantic

Treaty Organisation (NATO) must have adequate weapons and the will to resist and deter a potential aggressor. "It is time for freedom to take the offensive," she told the Canadian parliament.

Mr. Trudeau, who clashed with her at the Williamsburg summit last May over disarmament, stressed the need to negotiate.

"Let us work together to establish better communications and understanding," he said a few months ago, "we cannot go on facing down of megaphone diplomacy."

The phrase cropped up again when he flew down to New York to attend the U.N. General Assembly and implied that he would be ready to act as a bridge between East and West even though the time was not ripe right now.

"I would certainly like to go to Moscow if that could be useful but I don't see how it could be at the moment," he told reporters.

"We have two superpowers who are using megaphone dip-

lomacy and shouting stupid things at each other," he added.

Mr. Trudeau said he did not think the West would gain concessions from the Soviet Union "by treating them as murderers," he added: "We might get some de-escalation in the cold war by treating them as human beings."

His pleas for peace, whether presented to Mrs. Thatcher, parliament or the faithful in his own Liberal Party, are passionately delivered by NATO's longest-serving prime minister with a renewed vigour that has surprised many Canadians.

Mr. Trudeau, 55 years at the helm, has said he will step down before the next general election, expected next year, and his ruling Liberals are trailing the buoyant opposition Tories by almost two to one in opinion polls.

But now political commentators are puzzled over the enigmatic Trudeau's next move, possibly on the international stage.

With his political fortunes at a

low ebb on the home front, he could carve out some kind of mediator role to bring the glitter back to his image and possibly herald an electoral battle against new Tory leader Brian Mulroney.

Mr. Trudeau has clearly relished his clashes in parliament with the inexperienced Mulroney, who won a House of Commons seat in August.

Mr. Mulroney attacked him for calling the South Korean airliner disaster a tragic accident. Mr. Trudeau angrily retorted that now they "must try and find some way to stop shouting at each other when the world is teetering on the brink of disaster."

He has consistently backed NATO's two-track policy of deploying new weapons in Europe this December barring a breakthrough in arms negotiations and agreed to let the United States test the cruise missile over Canada's frozen north despite resistance here from anti-nuclear protesters.

S. Lebanon: Israel digs in to stay

By David Pallister

MR. AHMED Kalash, the mayor of Sidon, is a cautious host in his large and beautifully furnished flat. Parts of this town were flattened by Israeli bombardment and tanks last year and he is living under the vigilant eye of an occupying army. A civil engineer before being nominated as mayor by the Lebanese government four years ago, his job after the invasion was to remove the dead bodies and try to repair the electricity, water, and sewerage systems.

Now, as head of the Beirut government's vestigial authority, he sees with evident distaste the Israelis digging in deeper. "They are spending a lot of money and why?" he asked. They have a prison and an airstrip. They are arming another 'Shi'ite' militia. They claim it is so that the people can protect themselves. But from whom?

The Sidon police have been reduced to traffic duties. Armed robberies and car thefts have increased. "The police can do nothing. They know that people who carry guns have to have a green card from the Israelis. We cooperate with the Israelis," he said dryly, "only when their perceived security interests affect us."

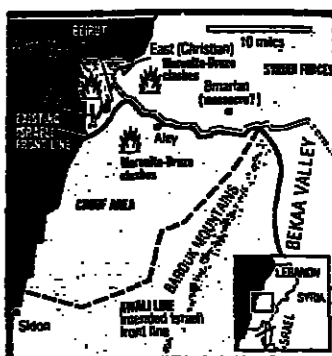
The new, so-called Shi'ite army is, in reality a ragbag of village-based militiamen, reputedly paid £300 a month by the Israelis, although they claim the money is raised locally. It is estimated to be no stronger than 2,000 men. It stands alongside another Israeli creation, the Free Lebanon Army of the renegade Lebanese army major, Sa'ad Haddad, whose mainly Shi'ite soldiers operate with the Israeli force. Both their flags fly at the first Israeli checkpoint just north of the Awali River, north of Sidon and 40 miles inside Lebanese territory.

A young, ginger-bearded spokesman for the Israeli Defence Force at Government House in Sidon, which was unceremoniously taken over in the invasion, said that the Shi'ites were joining the militias "to prevent a return of the Palestinian fighters who had treated the local people so badly." Almost as an after-thought, he added that Israel needed to be confident of its own security on the northern border.

After all, Israeli soldiers were still being regularly attacked.

Other independent sources in the area paint a very different picture. In the first place, they say, the attacks in the past month have been the work of the Lebanese Communist Party, which the Israelis have been unable to infiltrate because of its cell structure. The Israeli attempts to build a client security force through Major Haddad also appeared to have foundered.

Major Haddad, who last week stood down from daily command



because of an unidentified illness, has already complained about the dearth of new recruits. It is widely believed that the Israeli emphasis on village militias was a recognition that the imposition of an army hierarchy in this rural and fractious area was impossible.

A cynical Lebanese view is that the Israelis are up to their old tactics of divide and rule "just as they armed the Druze and the Falangists before pulling out of the Shouf mountains last month." One observer also believes that the militias are being raised as an intelligence-gathering network.

The Israeli force has been active in recruiting agents in the Palestinian refugee camps at Sidon where many people are still living in tents and squalor after the Israeli invasion. Sources in the camps said that about 40 Lebanese and Palestinian agents were working for the Israelis. Four teenagers were reportedly arrested recently and taken to the new Israeli prison at Ansar. Their crime had been to scrawl Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) graffiti on some walls. Ansar, on Lebanese territory, holds between 4,000 and 5,000 prisoners, mainly Palestinians.

A middle-aged Palestinian, whose brother spent nine months inside, described the punishment system: "People are taken to the 'Jura' — the hole — which is dug in the ground. They are pushed in and four or five soldiers beat them."

Mayor Kalash is not alone in feeling that the Israeli occupation is going to continue. It was perhaps for this reason that the Dutch government pulled out 650 of its 800 U.N. troops from the border area.

About 5,000 soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon remain under their 1978 mandate of confirming that year's Israeli withdrawal, securing peace and order, and helping the Lebanese government to reassert its authority.

The Israelis dislike the word occupation. Last week two journalists in Sidon, Mohammed Saleh and Mazen Beidawi, were arrested and held for three hours. They were told that their newspapers would be banned in the south if the word was used. —The Guardian

LETTERS

The right medicine

To the Editor:

A brief news item in Monday's (Oct. 17, 1983) Jordan Times (page 3) quoted me as saying that pharmacists in Jordan are by law allowed to dispense medicine to patients without referring to their physician or specialist.

I would like to clarify that the "medicine" in question is meant to be the "Over the Counter (OTC)" products, and not drugs that require a prescription from the patient's physician. In Jordan pharmacists are governed and do abide by international medical regulations, as do their counterparts in the rest of the world.

Ghaleb Sabharwal,
President, Jordanian
Pharmacists Association,
Amman

لقد انقضى

Jordanian art exhibition reflects vigour, freshness and vitality

By Cemil Eren

ISTANBUL — On 17th May the Exhibition of Jordan Contemporary Art was opened in Istanbul at the State Gallery of Fine Arts by Governor of Istanbul, Nevzat Ayaz. It brings from the Jordan National Gallery in Amman to the art lovers and artists of Turkey a vigour, freshness and youthful vitality.

Princess Wijdan Ali in her message to the Turkish public said, "The exhibition, Jordan Contemporary Art, comes to Turkey closing the cultural gap that has existed between the two countries for almost half a century... through art we bring a message of beauty and peace."

This exhibition first opened on April 25 in the nation's capital, Ankara. Attending the opening in Ankara at the invitation of the Turkish Minister of Culture and Tourism were prominent members of the diplomatic corps, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Justice as well as an unusually large number of art collectors, artists and representatives of the major papers. The following day the Museum of Sculpture and Painting, where the exhibition was held in Ankara, recorded over twelve thousand visitors, many of them school children.

Wide press and television coverage remarked on the sophisticated polish of presentation, the refinement of its message and the unexpected quality, vitality and cultural affinity of the works. The reverberations continue in

Turkey's art magazines as their new monthly issues appear on the newsstands. Before the exhibition moved from Ankara to Istanbul word had already spread to the old capital. Thus, the opening in Istanbul drew artists who rarely come out for the formality of an opening. Why the curiosity and excitement?

Surprise from the East

For two hundred years Turkey has looked West and now the East is taking it by surprise. This exhibition marks the first time the Jordan National Gallery goes abroad with its collection of Jordanian artists. It is also the first exhibition of painting, sculpture and ceramics from an Arab country to be held in Turkey's State Museum of Painting and Sculpture. Its advent is timely.

Princess Wijdan Ali, President of Jordan's Royal Society for Fine Arts, had impressed international art historians as she presided over two sessions of the "International Symposium on the Common Principles, Forms and Themes of Islamic Art" convened in Istanbul, the week before the exhibition opened in Ankara. All the participants at the Symposium had called for the opening of cultural exchange between Islamic countries. Quietly the Exhibition of Jordan Contemporary Art was mounted in the meantime.

Suddenly the exhibition opened to show with a panoply of works what was already happening in this direction through the foresightedness of the Jordanian

Royal Society for Fine Arts. Hailed by General Kemal Gokse as the first concrete evidence of putting wishes into action, he remarked on the dynamic development of Jordanian art and the leadership role being played by the Jordan National Gallery and the Royal Society for Fine Arts by collecting and presenting these works.

The Director of the Jordan National Gallery, Suhail Bisharat, emphasised that this was but one part of the gallery's growing collection from the Arab and Islamic countries and represented only contemporary Jordanian art. He added that the selection of paintings and ceramics makes no claim to being a comprehensive and exhaustive presentation of the visual arts in Jordan today. The works have been chosen, he said, to give our Turkish viewers as wide as possible acquaintance with artists active in Jordan today from the collection of the Jordan National Gallery. All the works, with the exception of a centrepiece portrait by Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid, come from the Jordan National Gallery's permanent collection.

This one work was graciously donated for the length of the exhibition. Mr. Bisharat explained, by the artist Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid so that viewers in Turkey could see an example of her work since her last individual exhibition held in Turkey at the Hittite Museum in 1964. Mr. Bisharat said. An earlier work of hers is contained in the Jordan National Gallery's permanent collection. This

portrait, placed at the end of a long vista, exercised a magnetic attraction on the public."

Two major impressions

The selection of 32 Jordanian artists, one of them a sculptor and one a ceramicist with the remaining painters, made two major impressions on the Turkish audience. One is of youth. The other is of vigour, and an open society. Few of the painters were born before 1940, and most of them after 1950. Fewer still were born on the East Bank of the Jordan River. Those who were born before 1940, notably Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid and Omar Fawzi, both of Turkish origin, have somehow absorbed a remarkable vigour from the clarity of Jordan's deserts, preserving in their works an individuality and stamina of youthful maturity, quite outside their Turkish contemporaries.

It is as if the artistic genius of Qasr Amra, lying dormant for so many centuries in the desert, has suddenly given off green shoots. Like a rare desert plant that with water and care bursts into bloom, I had the opportunity to represent Turkey at the exhibition brought to Amman by the Jordan National Gallery and the Royal Society for Fine Arts in cooperation with the Turkish government to commemorate the centennial of Atatürk with one hundred years of Turkish painting. During that visit I travelled in the desert, saw the vastness and colours of Princess Wijdan Ali's immense, shimmering canvasses, the rem-



The Istanbul State Museum of Fine Arts where the Jordanian exhibition was held

arkable soft light of Ali Jabri's work, the magnificent Byzantine portrait of Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid, the youth, dynamism and hope of the country and its artists.

In Suhail Bisharat's work there is the intuition of a geologist who looks under the external, seemingly hopeless forms of a steppe-desert landscape and discovers an interior world of fantasy. The liquid brightness of the Dead Sea in Fuad Mimi's work veils the distant horizon of Jerusalem.

Accompanying the Jordanian

exhibition to Turkey at the invitation of the Turkish government was Fuad Mimi, artist and television producer. Mr. Mimi performed both roles in Ankara, collecting about himself young artists and connoisseurs while deftly overseeing the filming of the exhibition by Turkish teams.

Ali Jabri, a sensitive artist, is on display in this exhibition with his superb interior of a house in Ma'an. Each artist is represented by only one work. Mohanna Durra's monochrome printing is an important example of cubism, which gains uniqueness with its

monolithic structures. Tawfiq Al Sayed joins him, adding greater colour in his large canvas, Aziz Amoura and Kuram Nimry, both born in 1944 and educated at the Baghdad Academy of Fine Arts, one famous for his portraits and the other for his sculpture, are seen in this exhibition, the latter

with an outstanding example in wood. And then the work of ceramicist, Mahmoud Taba, a great, full round form incised with Arab calligraphy and displayed on a pedestal. An excellently prepared exhibition catalogue gives full biographies of each individual artist.

Cemil Eren figures among the leading contemporary painters of Turkey. He came to Amman as the artist accompanying the Turkish National Exhibition. Once prodigiously productive in stained glass and ceramic panels, he is best known today for his oil on canvas works that display a deceptive simplicity in their rendering of the white houses, doves and fishing boats of the Aegean coast. He is noted among art critics for his mastery of various tones of white.

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SPORTS

Americans suffer at start of world Amateur Boxing Cup

ROME (R) — Top American boxers took a surprise pounding as the World Amateur Boxing Cup began here Monday night.

Light-flyweight Jose Rosario and bantamweight Jesse Benavides, competing in a North American team which also includes Cuba, both slumped to shock defeats.

Puerto Rican-born Rosario, 20, was the heavy favourite against South Korean Kwang Sun Kim but twice hit the canvas as the versatile Kwang attacked powerfully. Rosario recovered some ground in the third round but lost 3-2 on points.

Benavides, with 256 wins and only 14 defeats behind him, la-

nched into a fierce but chaotic assault on reigning European Champion Yuri Alexandrov of the Soviet Union.

But the American repeatedly walked on to a succession of straight rights from Alexandrov, world champion last year, and crashed to a heavy points defeat.

There were few mistakes from Bulgaria's Ismail Mustafov, Olympic bronze medalist and world and European light-flyweight champion, who easily outclassed Italy's Salvatore Todisco in their bout.

Hosts Italy suffered another disappointment when lightweight Carlo Russolillo was disqualified for clinging after receiving a battering from South Korean Chul-Sung Jun.

But Italy's main hope, super-heavyweight Francesco Damiani, had no trouble in disposing of Tanzanian Willi Issangura 5-0 on points. He moves into the semifinals due to a shortage of opponents.

Nine teams are competing in the week-long event, the third World Cup since the competition was created in 1979.

The teams are: Asia 1, Europe 1 and 2, North America, South America, Oceania, Africa 1, Asia 2 and Italy.

McEnroe begins 21-day suspension

NEW YORK (R) — John McEnroe has waived his right to appeal against the three-week ban slapped on him after the Australian Indoor Tennis Championship on Sunday.

It means the American world number one will return to tennis in time for the \$250,000 London Grand Prix tournament next month.

A spokesman for the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) said John McEnroe, Sr. who serves as his son's agent, informed the council Monday night that the Wimbledon champion would not appeal.

Under council rules, a player

automatically incurs a 21-day suspension if he exceeds \$7,500 in fines during a 12-month period. The suspension can be extended to 42 days if a player plays in exhibitions during the first 21 days — but McEnroe does not plan to do so.

McEnroe incurred the ban when he was fined \$1,500 for abusing an official on the way to victory over Frenchman Henri Lecointe in Sunday's final.

McEnroe will miss the Stockholm Open in the first week of November but will be eligible to play in London the following week.

Safwat win not enough to topple England

AUCKLAND (R) — Ahmed Safwat of Egypt scored one of the best wins of his career when he beat England's world number three Hiddy Jahan in the World Team Squash Championships here on Tuesday.

But Safwat's 8-10, 9-4, 9-5, 9-6 triumph in the intermediate pool Group 'B' clash was not enough to give the Egyptians an upset win over the second seeds, who fought back to win the match 2-1 thanks to victories by Phil Kenyon and Gawan Briers.

The result did little to affect

Wednesday night's semifinal line up. Egypt who had already secured their place in the last four, meet Group 'A' winners and top seeds Pakistan while England, who topped their group, meet third seeds Australia.

Pakistan routed Australia 3-0 in another intermediate pool game on Tuesday. But the third seeds tested their number one, Dean Williams, for the semifinals.

Sweden beat Canada 3-0 and New Zealand beat the United States 2-1 in other matches.

Top seed Gomez made to battle for 3rd round berth

TOKYO (R) — Top seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador and American second seed Elliot Teltscher both eased into the third round of the \$175,000 Japan Open Grand Prix tennis tournament here on Tuesday.

But five other seeds including Americans Robert van't Hof, seeded fourth, and seventh-seeded Scott Davis were eliminated.

Gomez was made to fight for his third-round berth by American Van Witsky and won a second set tie-breaker 10-8 to go through 6-3, 7-6. Teltscher romped to a convincing 6-0, 6-1 victory over India's Sashi Menon.

But van't Hof was always struggling against his compatriot Charlie Strode in their second round match. He dropped the first set, levelled the match in the second, then crashed 7-1 in a tie-breaker in the deciding set to go out 6-4, 4-6, 7-6. Davis lost 7-6, 6-4 to another American Larry Stefanki.

Third seed Henri Leconte of France had little trouble dismissing American Sean Brawley 6-3, 6-0 in their first round clash.

Third-seed Julie Harrington beat fellow American Micki Schilling 7-5, 6-2.

Caracas dope scandal may be turning-point in drug abuse

By Paul Radford
Reuter

COLOGNE, West Germany — The dope scandal at last August's Pan-American Games in Caracas may well mark the turning-point for widespread drug abuse in American sport, according to the West German expert who exposed it.

Professor Manfred Donike, head of Cologne's Institute of Biochemistry, set off alarm bells in Venezuela with his sophisticated testing techniques which revealed that 19 games competitors had taken illegal drugs.

In addition a group of U.S. athletes returned home before competing and at least one confirmed that he withdrew because of the drug-testing procedures.

Yet the 50-year-old Donike, a former champion cyclist of his country, appears genuinely surprised at the shock his tests have given to the whole American sports scene.

"No-one should have been surprised by my tests," he told Reuters. "Contrary to a lot of the things said they are identical to the ones we have been using for years in Europe."

"I sent detailed information on these techniques to all the sports bodies involved and, months before the games, went to Caracas to give a lecture to representatives from almost all participating federations and nations."

"It was no secret," he says. "This was no sudden attack on U.S. sport."

Donike says he suspects a number of competitors performed below par in Caracas to avoid a medal position which would involve a dope test and estimates as many as 50 or more sportsmen there had taken illegal drugs.

The extent of doping was illustrated by the fact that the offenders came from 10 nations and six different sports.

The West German biochemist said he believes there is a timing between America and Europe on awareness of the harmful effects of drugs in sport.

The death during the Tour de France cycle race in 1967 of British rider Tom Simpson, a former world champion who collapsed and died after taking stimulants, was a salutary experience which provoked action by European sports bodies to stop drug abuse.

But the lessons were not learned in the new world where dope

testing has largely been ignored and where many sportsmen have come to believe that drug taking is indispensable to achievement at the highest level.

Caracas could be a turning-point in the campaign against drug abuse in American sport, Donike believes, and is likely to be a sharp lesson to sportsmen intent on using dope in their preparation for next year's Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

But he says the tests used in Caracas were identical to the ones carried out at this year's World Athletics and Rowing Championships in Helsinki and Duisburg, West Germany, at which no positive cases of drug abuse were found.

U.S. athletes competing regularly at major European meetings are well aware that dope testing is routine on this side of the Atlantic and take care not to transgress the rules, he says.

Donike devised techniques to detect the use of stimulants back in 1969 when he was given the job of dope testing for the 1972 Munich Olympics, the games at which widespread controls over drug use were introduced.

Since then he has become widely regarded as the world's leading authority on dope testing and has acted as adviser to both the Olympics held since and to numerous major sporting events.

He and his team of 19 technicians operate from the seventh floor of the Deutsche Sporthochschule overlooking the twin spires of Cologne Cathedral from a laboratory boasting some two-and-a-half million marks (\$1 million) of sophisticated equipment.

"But there's nothing so special about it," he says. "This equipment is good but it's readily available anywhere."

His tests for stimulants are unchanged since 1969 and those to detect anabolic steroids, used

mainly by weightlifters and field athletes as body-builders, were developed in 1974 and improved to their present standard four years ago.

The institute spends much of its time on research and has developed tests being used in next year's Olympics to detect testosterone, the male hormone naturally produced in the testes, doses of which can be artificially added to improve the performance of both male and female athletes. The drug is on the banned list for the first time.

His first inkling of the dramatic events of Caracas came before the Pan-American Games started when the U.S. team demanded pre-checks.

"As a rule I am against pre-checks," Donike says. "But considerable pressure was put on me so in the end I accepted."

Of the 10 weightlifters he tested he found positive evidence of anabolic steroids or testosterone in eight, a suspicion of dope use in a ninth and the last sample resembled water so closely it was clearly doctored, Donike said.

His experiences of drug-taking among cyclists in the 1950s has given him a long-standing distaste for dope in sport. "Many of them were taking small doses of amphetamines. This never seemed to me compatible with sport."

"You might say I was never a pharmacist. I could not even compete after drinking coffee."

Donike is now growing increasingly interested in the widespread use of cocaine by American sportsmen.

"It's never been widely available in Europe so it hasn't been a problem here," he said. "Though it acts as a stimulant, it's not long-lasting or controllable so I would have thought it would have a negative effect."

"But if it's used so much there must be something in it. I would like to know more."

California pushes for boxers' headgear

LOS ANGELES (R) — The California State Athletic Commission has ordered an inquiry into whether professional boxers should wear protective headgear in the ring to avoid brain injuries, commission chairman Haig Kelegian said on Tuesday.

The inquiry follows the death of two boxers, Kiko Bejines and Isidro Perez, after fights in the United States in the past two months. The commission controls professional boxing in California.

"There is a distinct possibility we will start a trial programme in which boxers in preliminary bouts in California will wear headgear," Kelegian said.

He said a member of the commission's staff had designed a protective helmet made of leather and foam rubber. It would not shield a boxer's face from blows but it would reduce the impact if his head struck the canvas, Kelegian said.

Pakistani cricketers leave for Australia

KARACHI (R) — The Pakistani cricketers left here Tuesday for their 105-day tour of Australia leaving behind a storm of controversy over captain Imran Khan. Imran, who has admitted he is not fully fit, is suffering from a shin stress fracture and does not intend to bowl on the tour until Australian specialists treating him give the go ahead.

The four member selection committee recommended dropping the all-rounder from the 16-strong party but were overruled by the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP).

Pakistan will play five tests, five four-day matches and 20 one-day limited over internationals on the tour.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

French firm wins Iraqi contract

BAGHDAD (R) — A French firm has won a nine million dinar (\$30.6 million) contract for an Iraqi meat, poultry and fish cold storage project, the daily Baghdad Observer reported Tuesday. The agency did not name the firm. The contract includes a training programme and the supply of a fleet of refrigerated trucks, it said.

Japan's opposition rejects tax bait

TOKYO (R) — Japan's biggest opposition party brushed aside the lure of tax concessions Tuesday and pressed for a snap general election to force a showdown on the nation's biggest corruption scandal since World War II. The move by Chairman Masashi Ishibashi of the Japan Socialist Party kept alive the crisis created by former prime minister Mr. Kakuei Tanaka for accepting a \$2 million bribe. He told a press conference he would not abandon his boycott of parliamentary proceedings to discuss tax cuts. Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone had hoped the prospect of tax cuts might entice opposition members back to the parliamentary chamber.

S.African workers plan strike

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Black workers at a refinery which processes all South Africa's gold have rejected a final pay offer from the plant's owners and plan to strike, a union official said Tuesday. National Union of Mineworkers General Secretary Cyril Ramaphosa told Reuters that the union's 250 members at the Rand refinery near Johannesburg had rejected the offer unanimously at a meeting Monday night. He said he expected a strike after a statutory 30-day cooling-off period, which began last Friday. "We will take a strike vote about Nov. 14 and then we will go on strike," he said.

Arab co. incurs heavy loss

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — The Arab Maritime Petroleum Transport Company sustained a loss of \$8.36 million during the first half of this year, despite "drastic budget cuts and massive staff redundancies," according to Director General Abdul Rahman Al Sultan. He said two tankers had been on total lay-off since January and another four supertankers had followed suit. "The remaining vessels do not have enough work," Mr. Al Sultan added. Staff at head office had been cut from 118 to 58, while 70 trainees were laid off.

UAE, Dhaka to form joint co.

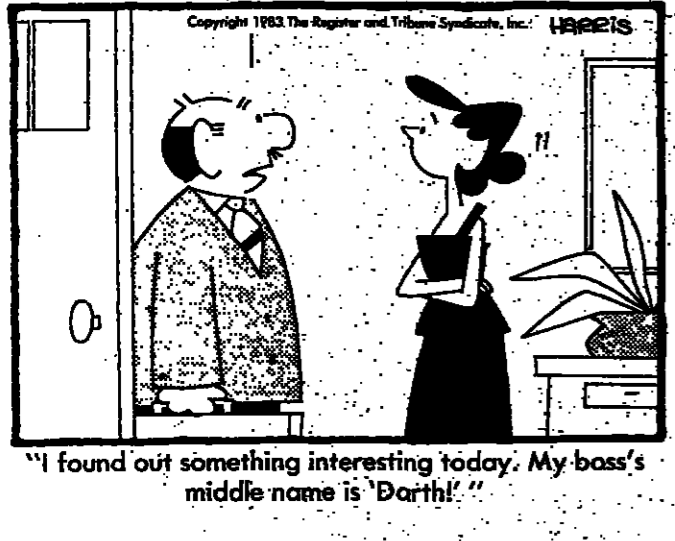
ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh are to form a \$30 million joint investment company in the private sector. Visiting Bangladeshi minister of finance, Mr. A.M. Muhi, said he was seeking UAE assistance for a \$263 million limestone and cement project. He said the plant, jointly financed by the Saudi and Kuwaiti funds, the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Islamic Development Bank and the International Finance Corporation, will meet the entire cement needs of Bangladesh. Mr. Muhi added that a joint investment company similar to the one with the UAE, had been formed with Saudi Arabia to set up a mini steel plant in Bangladesh.

Jakarta to start repaying debt

JAKARTA (OPECNA) — Indonesia will pay \$2 billion this month as part of efforts to honour its overall foreign debt of \$17.8 billion. Finance Minister Radius Prawito said here Monday. Although Indonesia had begun to reservice its debt, it was still interested in obtaining new loans to finance several development projects, he added.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BAXOR

YORFT

PLESIV

QUOPEA

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O O O O O"

(Answer tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BARON LOFTY SUBMIT GRISLY
Answer: What "Jack and the Beanstalk" is — A TALL STORY

Eximbank lowers interest rates

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) said Monday it has reduced interest rates on medium and long-term loans that finance American exports to middle-income and poor countries.

The reductions, which come into effect immediately, are part of a compromise to implement new guidelines adopted on Oct. 15 by members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Under the new OECD guidelines, minimum interest rates charged for export financing loans will be revised automatically every six months beginning in January 1984 to reflect changes in market interest rates.

U.S. has long favoured such an automatic adjustment procedure, arguing that some Western industrial countries were unfairly subsidising trade to developing nations by charging too little on export loans.

Eximbank's new rates on loans to middle-income countries fall from 10.85 per cent to 10.35 per cent on two to five year loans.

Bank lending to Third World rises slightly

BASLE (R) — Bank lending to Third World nations picked up slightly in the second quarter of the year, improving their chances of financing huge balance of payments deficits, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Tuesday.

After slumping to \$1.6 billion in the first quarter, new lending to non-oil-producing developing countries rose to \$4.2 billion in the following three months.

This was still much lower than the \$13 billion loaned in the same quarter last year, but the BIS said in its quarterly international banking report the \$50 billion balance of payments deficit forecast for these countries this year may now prove financeable.

The Swiss-based BIS, which operates as the central banks' clearing agency, warned in its last report in July that planned deficits in some countries might not be sustainable because bank lending had been cut back so sharply in the past year.

This could have forced Third World governments, many of which are already running tough economic adjustment programmes to impose even harsher austerity measures to cut imports.

Third World nations are expected to need another \$20 billion in bank loans to meet their 1983

balance of payments needs, it said.

The BIS bases its greater optimism over the developing world's troubles on the assumption that bank lending will continue to recover, and that "involuntary" loans to problem countries will resume after a temporary halt.

Involuntary loans are those made by banks under pressure from government and central banks as part of a rescue package involving International Monetary Fund credits.

In the first quarter of 1983, Mexico and Brazil, the two nations with the biggest repayment problems, took up \$3 billion of such loans.

The BIS remarks on Third World deficits were among the few hopeful notes in its report, which showed international bank lending worldwide had continued to shrink under the impact of the debt problems and recession.

For the first time since the BIS began collecting quarterly data in 1963, total outstanding foreign loans of banks in the major West-

ern industrialised countries showed virtually no quarterly increase.

Growth of foreign lending, excluding operations between banks, amounted worldwide to only half that in the second quarter of last year. It was a little higher than the first quarter, this year, but this was partly seasonal, the BIS said.

Apart from involuntary loans, Latin America received only \$700 million of new credit from banks in major industrialised countries in the first half.

Lending to Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), at a standstill in the first quarter, totalled only \$800 million in the second quarter. However, OPEC countries reduced their bank deposits by \$7.1 billion.

Eastern Europe, where the international debt crisis began with Poland in 1981, received \$300 million in new credits in the second quarter.

The BIS warned that if future debt problems were to be contained there had to be a reasonable financial climate in the developed world, problem countries must pursue IMF-agreed adjustment programmes and the banks must continue to finance both creditworthy and troubled nations.

Comecon premiers begin meeting

EAST BERLIN (R) — East German Prime Minister Willi Stoph opened a three-day meeting of government heads from the Soviet-led trade group Comecon Tuesday with a plea for greater cooperation.

The same goal was stated in the 10-nation body's annual report which said Comecon bodies would work out proposals for bringing the members' economic institutions closer together.

The report said that economic cooperation within Comecon stood in contrast with what it called the deepening crisis in the capitalist world.

It said stable supplies of Soviet oil had flowed as agreed to most Comecon countries, but made no mention of a 10 per cent cut ordered by Moscow last year in order to maintain earnings on the world market in the face of the falling world price.

East European sources expected the price charged by the Soviet Union for its oil to draw complaints from the East European states. The cutback is thought not to have been repeated this year and some countries have adjusted to having less oil, partly through energy-savings.

The report said cooperation within the group had improved and that member countries had begun coordinating their five-year plans for 1986-1990.

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LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares closed mixed after a quiet session with no new factors emerging to influence sentiment, dealers said. At 1500 Tuesday the F.T. index was up 0.3 at 677.9.

Leading issues average movements ranged to 4p either way but Hawker was 10p down at 270 ahead of interim results Wednesday while Glaxo added 18p at 748 continuing the rally after the recent setback which followed its results.

Government bonds showed little change on balance with U.K. third quarter public sector borrowing requirement figures having little impact, dealers said.

Banks held early gains in technical reaction to recent falls made on international debt concern.

Barclays and Natwest both rose 10p to 434 and 567 respectively, while in firm insurances Eagle Star rose 18p to 466.

In foods Brooke Bond lost a penny at 70 despite end of year results above some market expectations.

Oils ended mixed but some lost opening gains with Shell unchanged at 568 after 570.

Hong Kong stocks held early gains with Jardine Matheson and Swire Pacific both 3p higher at 76 and 116½ respectively.

Gold shares closed mostly lower.

Gold shares closed mostly lower.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5005/15	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2310/13	Canadian dollars
	2.5838/48	West German marks
	2.8975/85	Dutch guilders
	2.0972/82	Swiss francs
	53.66/70	Belgian francs
	7.9020/50	French francs
	1571.00/1572.00	Italian lire
	231.87/97	Japanese yen
	7.7480/7510	Swedish crowns
	7.2740/70	Norwegian crowns
	9.3500/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	396.50/397.00	U.S. dollars

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: After a slow start, attend to whatever unfinished business is possible. You now have the chance to be all fired up with new pioneering ideas whereby you have a good chance to advance.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan privately for coming civic affairs and later go after your goals in a positive and efficient manner. The evening is fine for seeing friends.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to avoid pals who have problems and plan a brighter future for yourself, since you have been helping others too much lately.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Whatever is puzzling connected with your vocation can be clarified by proper analysis. Socialize with good friends later.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) The morning is risky for any new investment, but later you can make progress in the right channels.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) The morning is best time to handle held-over business dealings so that later you can get into fascinating new ventures.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Listen to the demands of partners and handle them in a sensible fashion. Higher-ups will then assist you to advance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Do only whatever is necessary at home or office early and then you can be with partners to discuss important matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't arrange for extravagant amusements and get busy on practical affairs that can increase your abundance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You had better be tactful in handling problematical affairs at home, and later you can go out for recreation and have a fine time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Particular care must be exercised to avoid accidents from occurring, then you can be happy at home after your work is done.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be very careful about finances today and know what your true position is with associates. Exercise patience.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You are apt to get wound up on personal affairs early, but later be sure to handle routines and business deals well.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... He or she may seem dull and not have confidence early in life, so be sure to encourage and give right diet and soon there can be a decided change for the better. Plan a fine education for your progeny, and add foreign languages.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by John Greenman

ACROSS

1 Model airplane material

6 Vehicle

9 High prof.

13 Cronelike

14 Sloth

16 Social bigwig

17 Kind of tube

18 Semaphore users

20 Consider

22 Lose a sunburn

23 Mo.

24 Billy Williams

27 Take in greedily

30 —Na-Na

33 Humorous

35 Plumlike

37 What a caboose does

41 Put up with

42 Sweeten the pot

43 Foxy

44 "Norma" and "Tosca"

47 Electrical unit

48 Me: Fr.

49 Place to relax

52 Perform as promised

60 Basic

61 Young hooter

62 Plumlike fruit

63 Before cast or gram

64 Rockfish

65 Ranges of vision

66 Shade of blue

67 Birch tree

DOWN

1 Fishing need

2 Magnani or Moffo

3 Connect

4 Insomniac's need

5 Panthouse, e.g.

6 Hubbub

7 Freshwater mussel

8 Heroic tale

9 Apportion

10 Stead

11 Disunited

12 Univ. or hosp.

15 Boorish

19 Accumulate

21 Actor

24 Liabilities

25 Film swash-buckler

26 A Bronte

28 Poisonous snake

29 Neighbor of Que.

30 Dictator's aide

31 Moor

32 Pertinent

34 Scot's one

36 Lyricist

38 Furrow

39 Wisp

40 Colorado tribe

45 Melanie's mate

46 Observe

48 Acts out

50 Ancient market

51 Monogrammed item

52 Writing table

53 French pronoun

54 Ponce de —

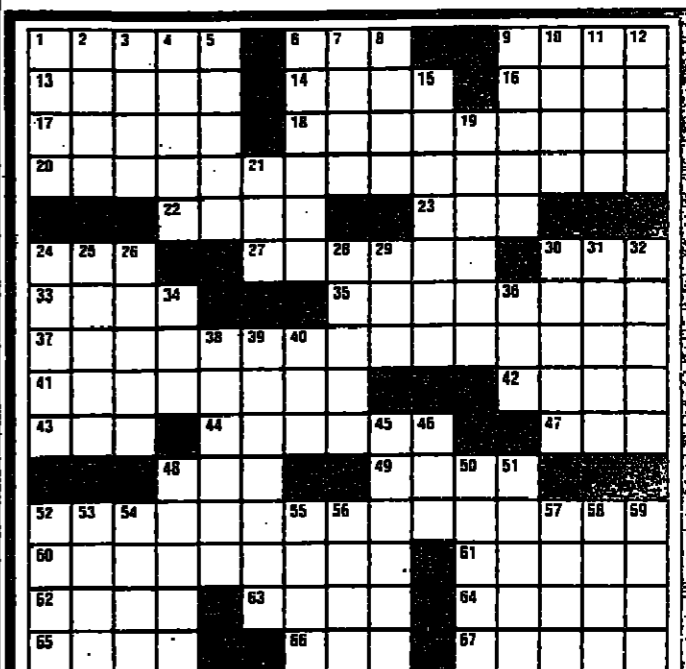
55 Paths of trav.

56 Yak

57 Smelly interest

58 Sand hill in England

59 Leading player



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WORLD

S. Africa's neighbours warned of future raids

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa has again flexed its military muscle against a black neighbouring state with a raid Monday on a nationalist guerrilla office in Mozambique, following it up with by warning that more attacks could be expected.

The South African Defence Force gave few details of the pre-dawn strike, but said a small task force had successfully carried out the operation against what it described as operational headquarters of the African National Congress (ANC) which is sworn to overthrow white-minority rule in South Africa.

Announcing the attack, South African Defence Minister Magnus Malan said: "As long as they (the Mozambicans) continue to help the ANC with the planning of terrorist acts... the SADF (South African Defence Force) will conduct operations in that country."

Mozambique said that five people were injured by a bomb on the roof of an apartment block in central Maputo which the Mozambican security service said housed an ANC office.

It was the third major strike by

South Africa into Mozambique since 1981.

Neither South Africa nor Mozambique has given details of the raid which followed quickly on explosions in South Africa that caused severe damage to a fuel depot in the spa town of Warmbaths, near Pretoria.

Gen. Malan told a political meeting Monday night that South Africa had yet to use its "iron fist" and that to date it had conducted operations such as the one in Maputo Monday "clinically".

He hoped it would never be necessary for South Africa to show its true might.

The minister said South Africa was tired of its people being exposed to sabotage and terror "for which the ANC later claims responsibility from some obscure office in some or other southern African state."

He added: "Limpet mines and other bombs which explode inside South Africa do not just fall from the sky — they come here with the knowledge and cooperation of some of our neighbouring states."

In Paris, meanwhile, Mozambican President Samora Machel was due to watch French military manoeuvres Tuesday after talks Monday with France on military cooperation following the South African commando raid.

The Mozambican leader, who arrived Monday in Paris for a two-day official visit, condemned the South African attack as terrorism.

Mr. Machel told reporters after talks and a working lunch with French President Francois Mitterrand that he had asked for, and obtained assurances of, "all kinds" of military support for the defence of his country.

A French presidential spokesman said later Mr. Machel had made no such request directly, but that France would study sympathetically any Mozambican appeal for military support.



SAFER OUTSIDE: A young boy driven from his house here by scores of earth tremors, drinks water from a small fountain as a woman washes clothes in a tent camp near Pozzuoli. Thousands of residents have been evacuated from their homes because of the tremors. (A.P. wirephoto)

Grenadan left raps ousted premier

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (R) — Grenada's ruling new jewel movement will decide whether to expel Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, now under virtual house arrest, after a military investigation into his activities, according to the island's army commander.

Gen. Hudson Austin said in a radio speech Monday that Mr. Bishop had defied the collective will of the left-wing party and had tried to run a "one-man show" since a coup in 1979 when elected Prime Minister Eric Gairy was overthrown in the first coup in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Mr. Bishop, 39, has not been seen in public since Wednesday

because of an apparent power struggle with Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard.

Gen. Austin said the country of 110,000 people was still being run by the New Jewel Movement (NJM) and denied that his 1,000-man force had taken over.

"Comrade Bishop is at home and quite safe," the general added.

Gen. Austin said Mr. Bishop had "imagined conspiracies within the (NJM) central committee aimed at removing him as leader of the country."

He had also spread a false rumour that Mr. Coard, considered a hard line Marxist ideologue, was

planning to kill him, the general said.

The general's speech provided the first coherent account of events within the NJM hierarchy.

He said over state-run Radio Free Grenada, controlled now by an anti-Bishop faction which Gen. Austin said was a vast majority, that one of the main principles of the NJM was collective leadership.

Press reports in Trinidad and Tobago, 120 kilometres south of Grenada, said the military there had deployed scores of soldiers to prevent possible illegal landings by refugees from Grenada.

Long John Silver had plans to invade Comoros

MELBOURNE (R) — Three men, one with a wooden leg, plotted to sail across the Indian Ocean in a yacht called Sinbad to topple the Comoros Islands' government, a court was told.

They were arrested aboard the Sinbad at Portlaurd, southern Australia, prosecutor Richard Maidment told Melbourne magistrates court Monday.

They had planned to invade one end of the Comoros Islands, between Madagascar and the African mainland, while about 50 mercenaries recruited in Britain stormed the other end, the prosecution alleged.

William Lugg, 31, John Meyer, 23, and Dieter Burojevic, 36, are charged with preparing between December, 1982, and March this year to enter a foreign country

with intent to engage in hostile activity against its government.

No plea was taken from the men, who, if convicted, face a maximum 14-year jail term under Australia's Crimes, Foreign Incursions and Recruitment Acts.

Prosecutor Maidment said the three men were hired by a man acting for a Prince Kamahal, described as a son of the former ruler of the islands, now known as the Islamic Republic of Comoros.

He said the trio, Lugg with one leg and a disability pension, had intended sailing from Gellong, near Melbourne, to the West Coast port of Perth at the start of their voyage.

But plans changed when they heard that others involved in the scheme had been detained in Western Australia, Mr. Maidment told the court.

Sri Lanka extends emergency

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's government said Tuesday the nationwide state of emergency imposed five months ago to prevent ethnic violence and curb separatist guerrillas had been extended by a month.

Tamil guerrillas, fighting for a separate state, continue to make sporadic attacks in the northern and eastern provinces. Suspected guerrillas Monday seized 40 firearms and stole cash from a government office in the east coast town of Batticaloa.

President Junius Jayewardene has invited four opposition parties to a meeting Wednesday to discuss ways of resolving ethnic tension.

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Greek women force banning of low-grade film

By Bruce Clark

ATHENS (R) — The last minute banning of a Greek film depicting the life, trial and sentencing to death of a rapist and murderer has been greeted joyfully by women's organisations but denounced as censorship by its producers.

"The Dragon, the Personality of the Day," promoted by a lurid poster of a woman being strangled — was due to open last week at cinemas all over the country.

But at the last moment, a committee at the press ministry, which decides whether films are fit for general release or for adults only, told producer Costas Karayiannis that his work was not just unsuitable for children, it was unsuitable for anybody.

"The women have won," headlined the left-wing daily Ta Nea, over a photo of a woman tearing down a poster for the film.

But Mr. Karayiannis said it differently. After unsuccessfully trying to burn copies of the film outside parliament — the police told him he was polluting the atmosphere — he offered foreign newsmen a private viewing and invited them to judge for the-

mselves if the film would encourage would-be rapists, as women's groups fear.

The producer, who has made over 100 low-budget films, says this is censorship reminiscent of the 1967-74 military dictatorship or the fascist regime before 1941.

But for women's groups, the film was another example of what they call a cynical, irresponsible attitude by the media to rapists.

In June, Greek newspaper readers were invited to follow in minute detail the trial of a young army officer stationed in the northern town of Drama who had sexually attacked nine women, killing two of them.

The officer, Kyriakos Pappas, dubbed "The Dragon of Drama", described in grisly detail how he cut women's throats with a knife, using his training in a crack army unit.

He was given two death sentences, but with the government pledged to abolish capital punishment soon, there is no chance that he will be executed.

Now Athens has its own "Dragon".

Greek television gave extensive publicity to his arrest, and staged a "recreation" of his crimes that drew loud protests from feminists.

"Of course we're pleased about the banning of the film, but it's not just the film, it's the whole attitude of the media to rape," said Antigone Dimitriadis of the union of Greek women, whose president, Margaret Pappandreu, is the American wife of Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Pappandreu.

Press Minister and government spokesman Dimitrios Maroudas called the film disgusting. He said the government, which plans soon to abolish censorship, felt justified in this case in taking the exceptional step of reviving a law that was widely used under the dictatorship but is now virtually defunct.

Mr. Karayiannis said he found it extraordinary that his work should be banned when Greece's culture minister, actress Melina Mercouri, recently received an award in the United States for her role in the abolition of censorship.

Who encourages whom

He is sceptical about whether the media encourage rapists.

U.N. Command to investigate allegations by North Korea

SEOUL (R) — The United Nations Command (UNC) said Tuesday it was investigating two charges by North Korea that South Korea had fired on and infiltrated its territory.

The official North Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo, said Monday that South Korean soldiers "fired many precision shots from automatic weapons" at a North Korean post in the eastern sector of the Demilitarised Zone dividing the peninsula.

The agency also said two South Korean high-speed boats infiltrated into northern territorial waters off Changan Cape on the west coast just before dawn Monday.

A UNC spokesman said both allegations were being investigated.

The South Korean defence ministry Monday denied further northern allegations that it was staging provocative war games, saying that a 20,000-man military exercise going on in and around Seoul was an annual routine operation.

Tuesday it was "CBR" (chemical, biological and nuclear radioactive) day in Seoul with guards wearing gas masks near designated buildings during a 20-minute air raid exercise.

As sirens wailed, the busy streets of this city of nine million people suddenly emptied for traffic and disciplined citizens hurried to underground shelters and subway entrances.

14 hurt in Assam attack

NEW DELHI (R) — Fourteen passengers were injured, four seriously, when a bomb exploded in a bus in Assam's capital of Gauhati Monday night, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Tuesday. It quoted police as saying the blast was caused by a time bomb.

In New Delhi meanwhile, police Tuesday defused a bomb in a cinema after an anonymous tip off, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

Explosions in two other cinemas in New Delhi last week killed five people and injured 22. Police said Punjabi extremists might have been responsible for the bombs but no arrests had yet been made.

Fighting reported in Guatemala

MEXICO CITY (R) — Heavy fighting has erupted in Guatemala's northern El Quiché province, and government forces have called in aircraft and helicopter gunships as reinforcements, according to left-wing guerrillas.

In a statement from Mexico City, the Guerrilla Army of the Poor (EGP) Monday said strafing and bombing runs on villages in the area were causing heavy civilian casualties. The EGP gave no figures and government army spokesman in Ciudad de Guatemala had no immediate comment.

COLUMN

Argentine navy refuses to comment on British report

BUENOS AIRES (R) — The Argentine navy has declined comment on a British press report that it plotted to kill Britain's Prince Andrew last year on the Caribbean island of Mustique. "We are not going to say anything. These are just unofficial reports and we never comment on this type of information," a navy spokesman told reporters when asked to comment about the Sunday Times report in London. The paper said a commando team was to have landed on Mustique by submarine to kill Prince Andrew while he was on holiday there in July last year, but the plan was never carried out.

London's Savoy Hotel fined £400

LONDON (R) — A single shot of whisky cost London's famous Savoy Hotel £400 (\$600) in fines Tuesday after a court heard the drink was a short measure. The prosecution said inspectors bought the undersized drink during a spot check on the top hotel's American bar on July 12, the hottest night of the year. The Savoy, which serves 10,000 drinks a week, pleaded guilty. It said it had made a mistake in the heat of the moment and was taking steps to stop it happening again.

Queen Elizabeth's cockatoo stolen

WHIPPSNADE, England (R) — Knowledgeable thieves escaped from Whippsnade Zoo Tuesday with a rare, royal bird. The sulphur-crested cockatoo was presented to Britain's Queen Elizabeth during a visit to Australia in 1963. The birdnappers also got a second sulphur-crested cockatoo, three Roseate cockatoos, two maned geese and four Carolina ducks. "The thieves seemed to pick out the birds they wanted," said a spokesman for Whippsnade, which is a rural satellite of London zoo.

No bodies found in destroyed store

CHARLESTON, West Virginia (R) — Rescue workers searching the debris of a grocery store demolished by a gas explosion initially feared to have killed five people found no bodies, a police spokesman said Tuesday. Sixteen people were injured after the blast started an intense fire Monday in Davis Creek, south of Charleston. The spokesman said the owners of five cars parked outside the store had been traced and no other casualties had been found in the all-night search of the smoldering wreckage. "We were very lucky," he said.

2 jailed for Korean club fire

SEOUL (R) — A South Korean nightclub owner and his manager were sentenced to jail over a fire which killed 27 young disco fans at the southern city of Taegu last April, court officials said. Kim Byong-Su, owner of "The House on the Prairie" was sent to prison for five years and Im Song-Chol, executive manager of the second-floor club, received a four-year sentence. Both had been charged with accidental homicide and violation of fire prevention codes. The court in Taegu acquitted three other club employees of charges of contravening South Korea's ban on admitting people under the age of 20 to bars and other entertainment places, saying responsibility for enforcing the ban rested with the owners.

Muscovites donate to war memorial

MOSCOW (R) — Millions of rubles saved by Muscovites doing a day's unpaid labour will be used to build a giant memorial to the Soviet victory in World War II, the official daily Pravda said. The amount of money saved by the communist "subbotnik", a day on which everyone from street sweepers to assembly plant workers works without payment, totalled 31.6 million rubles (about \$40 million), Pravda said. Subbotniks are announced once or twice a year.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠872 ♠95 ♦A74 ♠AK1062
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?
A.—In support of spades your hand counts to 12 points. All of your high cards are aces and kings, which are undervalued in the point scale. More likely than not, partner has six spades on this sequence, and we think that you would be showing him scant respect if you bid anything less than four spades.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠7 ♠KQ1065 ♠QJ98 ♠Q85
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—With your preponderance of quacks (the trade name for queens and jacks) and misfit, your two-over-one response was already somewhat of an overbid. If you now introduce your diamonds, partner will play you for a much stronger hand than you have. The prudent course is to dampen partner's ardor by bidding three no trump.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠98642 ♠K7 ♦J763 ♠107
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?
A.—You really could not hold any less for your original response, so the tendency might be to pass now before your side gets into trouble. But you have not been relieved of the responsibility of the guiding the contract to the best spot. With your distributional hand and trump length, you must correct to three spades.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ83 ♠105 ♦9832 ♠AQ7

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—You must make some move, but to bid game yourself would be a rather unilateral decision. Since your diamond suit is not really the sort you want to introduce at the three-level, the standard choice is a bid of three clubs, to show partner your support for his suit.

This bid is forcing. If partner rebids three spades, confirming four-card support, you should press on to game.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQJ83 ♠AQJ5 ♦J6 ♠94
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner has started a cue-bidding sequence in search of slam. You have a very good hand, considering that you raised to only three hearts at your second turn. If you simply rebid four hearts, the auction quite likely will die there, especially since partner is looking at weak trumps. A jump to five hearts now will reassure him about trumps while warning him that you have nothing to cue-bid.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ6 ♠A19 ♠Q873 ♠J65
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Pass Pass 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?
A.—If partner had the values for an opening bid, he would have responded with a double. Since he did not, you cannot expect more than 10-11 points from him at most. Nevertheless, your cards are well placed and we suggest you make an attempt to reach game. Bid two no trump. With a weak, distributional balance, partner can still retreat to three clubs.

40 ships stranded in Siberia

MOSCOW (R) — Four convoys of Soviet fighters stranded in pack ice north of eastern Siberia faced worsening conditions Tuesday and a special commission has been set up to coordinate rescue action, according to latest reports.

An easterly wind which only a few days ago was blowing warm air from the Pacific, giving hope for an early end to the crisis, has given way to a northwesterly gale and new thick ice is building up, the trade union daily Trud reported Tuesday.

Some 40 ships, on the Arctic freight line which supplies the isolated cities of north Siberia, are held fast by the worst ice conditions reported in over 40 years.

"It appears that the situation will become even more tense by tomorrow," a correspondent reported from Monday's meeting of the rescue committee at Pevek, the tiny northeast Siberian port which is the closest inhabited point to the convoys.

The sailors on board the freight ships and icebreakers, supposed to be leading the convoys but now also hemmed in, were enduring fierce winds and temperatures of minus 20 degrees, he said.

Aircraft carrying scientists and ships' captains have been circling the area daily searching for gaps or fissures in the ice indicating a line of least resistance for the icebreakers to attempt to open up.

Sri Lanka links Tamil rebels, TULF

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government Tuesday released two more letters which it said firmly established that the Tamil party campaigning for a separate state had links with guerrillas fighting for the same cause.

The move followed a statement by Tamil leader Appapillai Amirthalingam saying that a similar letter alleged to have been written by his younger son and issued by the authorities last week contained mistranslations, distortions and interpolations.

Information Minister Anandattasa de Alwis, releasing the letters at a press conference Tuesday, said all three were written by Mr. Amirthalingam's son, Pahrithan, from the southern Indian city of Madras to Tamil friends in Sri Lanka's northern district of Jaffna.